



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي

Ghali urges halt to African arms flow

ATLANTA (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Saturday called for a halt to the flow of arms to Africa, blaming it for the civil strife in starving Somalia. "The outside world must act, urgently, to curtail the flow of arms to Africa," he told a conference on global development at ex-President Jimmy Carter's policy centre here. "Steps towards development will go nowhere in the long run so long as the continent is filled with weapons — arms that at any time can be used to tear down what has just been built up." The world body's chief officer made no direct reference to the imminent U.S.-led troop deployment in Somalia (see story below). The Egyptian-born diplomat noted that "there is a greater availability of arms than of food in Somalia. These arms were not manufactured in Somalia — they have no factories for arms. These arms were even bought by Somalia — they were given by the outside world, to serve outside interests."

New U.N. team starts inspection in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Two teams of United Nations weapons inspectors arrived in Baghdad Saturday and the chemical experts carried out their first inspection. "We stopped on our way in from the airport to inspect a site to make the best possible use of the time," said Swedish chemical expert Johan Santesson. He declined to give details. He told reporters on arrival at his Baghdad hotel the team would inspect a number of sites and raise several questions in about what he called Iraq's "so-called full, final and complete declaration" of its biological and chemical weapons. "There are a number of points in the declaration which are unclear and where we need to seek clarifications," he said. Some of the U.N. visits, made under Gulf war ceasefire terms, have been marked by confrontation. A three-week standoff outside the Agriculture Ministry in July raised the possibility of a U.S. air strike to force the Iraqis to let inspectors in. U.N. officials say the situation is now greatly improved. "I hope that the atmosphere will be as pleasant as the weather," Mr. Santesson said.

Team leaves for bilaterals, says progress depends on Israeli reply to proposals

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian delegates left Saturday for the eighth round of Middle East peace talks in Washington and said progress depended on Israeli. "We look at the next round of talks with hope," chief negotiator Abdul Salam Al Majali told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, before leaving for Washington for the talks set to open Monday. "But matters depend on the Israeli side in coming and agreeing to what the Jordanian delegation has presented them and in having the talks go on normally and regularly on the other tracks," he said.

The outcome of the negotiations depends on the deliberations and give-and-take process, Dr. Majali said. He said progress could be achieved along one track faster than the other and there "is a chance that progress on certain topics could be achieved faster than in others and but the final results can only be counted at the end of the negotiations."

"We are always coordinating matters with the other Arab parties to ensure that matters are going ahead on in a satisfactory and acceptable manner," Dr. Majali said.

Dr. Majali said each person has his own views in assessing the progress or the achievements and the coming round is unpredictable as everything depends on circumstances and many factors.

Dr. Majali's departure came on the day Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber returned from Beirut where he attended a meeting of the Arab foreign ministers involved in the peace process.

In a statement upon returning here, Dr. Abu Jaber said the meeting reaffirmed the Arab parties' participation in the eighth round of talks.

The Arab parties have coordinated their positions with regard to the coming talks and discussed "a common picture of the whole process," he told Petra.

Asked whether the presidential transition would have any effect on the peace negotiations, he noted that President-elect Bill Clinton had stated that he was concerned with the continuation of the peace process and he might appoint a special envoy to follow up on this matter.

In the next coordination meeting among the Arab parties, to be held in Cairo, the foreign ministers will discuss the outcome of the eighth round of negotiations.

Dr. Abu Jaber was quoted by Sawt Al Arab radio of Cairo as saying that Jordan was fully committed to a just and comprehensive settlement to the Middle East question.

He said that Jordan seeks a solution that "guarantees Israel's full withdrawal from all the occupied Arab lands in implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as well as Resolution 425 which calls for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanese territories."

Iran spent \$200m on 'terrorism' — report

CAIRO (AP) — Iran spent \$200 million on supporting Muslim extremists in Egypt, Sudan and Algeria in 1992, a weekly magazine said Saturday.

The Egyptian government-owned October magazine also quoted security reports as saying that Iran was collecting donations to aid Arab Muslim extremist groups, which it calls "Arab liberation cells."

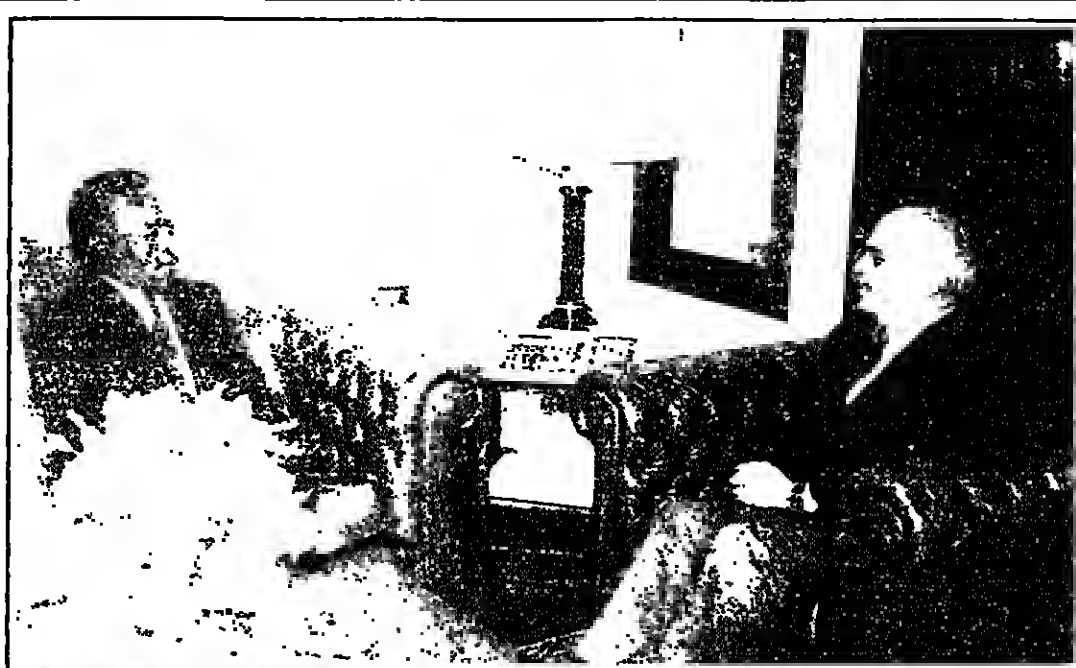
Strained relations between Egypt and Iran have worsened sharply in recent weeks. The Cairo government accuses Iran of providing Egyptian extremists with military training facilities in neighbouring Sudan and giving them money. Egypt also has charged Iran with trying to dominate weak Arab states in the Gulf. President Hosni Mubarak said last month Egypt would defend these states if necessary.

Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called Mr. Mubarak a "wretched, disgraced leader," Mr. Mubarak responded by denouncing Ayatollah Khamenei for his "lowly and obscene" language.

"Security reports say that Iran supports terrorist groups in most Arab and Islamic countries," October reported. "In 1992, Iran spent \$200 million to fund terrorism in northern African countries, especially in Egypt, Algeria and Sudan."

The magazine quoted the same security reports as saying that Iran was collecting donations for Arab Muslim extremist groups in Egypt, Algeria, Sudan, Tunisia, Lebanon, Libya, Afghanistan and some Gulf countries.

It said that Iran has sent \$30 million to Sudanese religious and political leader Hassan Turabi, who spent the money on training Arab Muslim "terrorists" in 30 camps in Sudan.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives Libyan Foreign Minister Jum'a Farrani, who conveyed to him a message from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi (Petra photo)

Libya supports King's call for a new Arab order and unity

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Court Saturday Libyan Foreign Minister Jum'a Farrani, who conveyed to him a message from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, commending His Majesty's stands on pan-Arab issues.

Colonel Qadhafi stressed in his message the need to enhance Arab coordination "so as to achieve Arab aspirations and face challenges facing future Arab generations."

He said his country supports King Hussein's call for the establishment of a new Arab order, unified Arab states or one Arab Nation.

In an address delivered last month at a graduation ceremony at the Royal Staff and Command College, King Hussein called on Arab "revolutionaries" to rise up against the Arab status quo and join Jordan in working towards a new Arab order which champions human rights, democracy and Arab renaissance.

The Libyan leader landed in Amman Thursday on a several-day visit to Jordan.

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Israelis kill Gaza boy in school, wound 30

KHAN YOUNIS, Occupied Gaza Strip (R) — Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian schoolboy in his classroom Saturday and wounded 30 other Arabs in a clash with hundreds of residents in the occupied Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources said.

The army confirmed one dead and 13 wounded in the incident in Khan Yunis, but a spokesman said a detailed report was not available.

Palestinian sources said the clash began when two undercover soldiers on foot followed by six uniformed soldiers in an Arab-owned private car surprised five masked Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) activists who were armed with axes and knives and were spraying graffiti.

The Israeli force opened fire on the activists, who fled. Students in nearby elementary and high schools heard the gunfire, streamed into the street and stoned the soldiers.

"Suddenly I saw two religious men pulling out their pistols and shooting at the masked men," said Ziad, 35, who witnessed the incident. "The people realised they were special units. They threw stones at them."

The Israeli military censor initially banned mention that some of the Israeli force was undercover. Reinforcements were called. The clash spread to include shoppers in a nearby market.

The soldiers shot dead one Palestinian schoolboy and wounded 30 other Palestinians, hospital officials said. The wounded included a boy aged three, a 15-year-old schoolboy, a 60-year-old woman and, when troops entered a nearby preparatory school, a teacher. Palestinian sources added.

School officials said the dead Palestinian, Esam Barabakh, 15, and the wounded schoolboy were both hit inside their classroom at the school by bullets fired from outside.

"Students... were shouting at the army from the windows. The soldiers shot at the school. Bullets penetrated the windows and hit the two boys," said Hassan, 45, a teacher at the school.

Since the outbreak of the Palestinian revolt against Israeli occupation on Dec. 9, 1987, Israelis have killed 964 Palestinians and Palestinians have killed 103 Israelis.

Clashes have increased in the Strip since Nov. 27, when troops shot dead a Palestinian who was throwing stones at them in Gaza City. Troops have killed four Palestinians and wounded more than 70 in the Strip in the last eight days.

On Saturday, many demonstrations were in anticipation of the 25th anniversary on Dec. 11 of the founding of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which opposes current Middle East peace talks.



Boris Yeltsin

control the course of economic and political reform.

Mr. Yeltsin told parliament Friday the proposed amendments would tie the hands of the government, endanger the reforms and deprive the country of stable power structures.

Afghan allies Shoul defends rejection of registration applications filed by two political parties

AMMAN (J.T.) — Interior Minister Jawad Shoul argued Saturday that it was his right to reject requests for recognition of political parties in Jordan according to law.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the minister said that the law granted the minister of interior the right to reject any request for registering political parties if that request was found contradicting the Jordanian laws.

But, he added, the same law opened the way for the applicants to contest the minister's decision at the Higher Court of Justice within 30 days of being informed of the rejection.

The final decision in this matter rests with the Higher Court of Justice, the minister added.

Mr. Shoul was clarifying points related to the ministry's rejection of applications by the Jordanian Communist Party and the Baath Arab Socialist Party for formal recognition. The rejection decision, announced Thursday, drew angry reactions from several prominent politicians and even ministers as well as newspaper columnists.

The heads of the two parties which were refused recognition received notification from the interior minister in which he said that he rejected the requests on the grounds that the name a party in Jordan must not be similar to that of any other party.

The minister said that the theories of socialism and communism directly contradicted article 11 of the Jordanian Constitution.

According to the minister, nine political groups have requested formal legal recognition but that only the Jordan National Alliance (JNA) party was granted licence. He said that the party had applied within the legal time fixed by the ministry registration of parties.

He noted that the Unionist Party has submitted a request for recognition on Oct. 3 and a reply should be forthcoming between Dec. 4 and Dec. 10 according to the law.

The 'Ahd (pledge) party, which submitted a request on Oct. 25, will receive a reply between Dec. 6 and 11. The Islamic Action Front, which submitted a request for recognition on Oct. 8, will receive a reply between Dec. 9 and 14. The Al Mustaqbal (Future) party which submitted a request for licence on Oct. 17 will receive a reply between Dec. 15 and 23. The Jordan Democratic People's Party, which submitted a request on Oct. 10 will receive a reply between Dec. 11 and 17 while the Jordan Democratic Progressive Party, which applied on Nov. 11 will receive a reply between Jan. 12 and 17.

Mr. Yeltsin had hinted he might either call a referendum on abolishing the rebellious congress, elected during the Soviet era and strongly opposed to Mr. Gaidar's reforms, or introduce direct presidential rule.

"If you continue to strive for absolute rule, this pyrrhic victory will be the last one and it will lead to the destruction of our country. Let us proceed together on decisions, including decisions on personnel," Mr. Khasbulatov added.

"Then the deputies will be defenders of executive power."

The official results came as a shock to many deputies, who were earlier quoted by several Russian news agencies as saying all seven constitutional amendments had been rejected by clear margins of up to 100 votes.

The vote on the fifth day of the congress was the latest effort by the hardline parliament to deprive Mr. Yeltsin of his ability to

in a bid to slow down the reforms, which have cut production and sent inflation soaring.

But conservative Parliament Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov, putting a brave face on the hair's breadth loss for right-wingers, told the government to heed the warning and abandon plans to bypass Russia's two-tiered parliament altogether.

"This is a victory for the congress and I want to tell our executive authorities...draw your own conclusions from these voting results," Mr. Khasbulatov said in a speech to the congress.

Saturday's vote was the peak of a week-long battle between reformers and conservatives at the congress, the only body empowered to change the constitution. It meets twice a year.

Economics Minister Andrei Netchayev had said the government would probably resign if all the amendments were approved.

Mr. Yeltsin was left with his powers to form a cabinet intact. Losing them, if the amendment had gone through, could have jeopardised the radical economic reforms of acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar's government.

Hardline opponents in the congress had pushed for the changes

Most countries rally behind U.S. move into Somalia

LONDON (AP) — Iraq has dismissed as a last-minute publicity stunt the dispatch of troops by President George Bush to ensure food gets to starving Somalis. Most other countries backed the move and some joined in but one warring Somalia general condemned it.

Radio Mogadishu monitored in Britain reported that General Mohammed Farah Aideded Friday handed visiting French Minister Bernard Kouchner a written protest for delivery to the United Nations Security Council.

Gen. Aideded is chairman of the Somali National Alliance and the United Somali Congress. Mr. Kouchner is French minister of health and humanitarian action.

The radio, which supports Gen. Aideded, quoted the general as saying the decision to send foreign troops to Somalia had

hatched conspiracies aimed at impeding relief work and had paralysed work at the ports of Mogadishu and Kismayo.

It quoted him as saying these conspiracies and many others were hatched by U.N. Operation Somalia in order to bring foreign troops into the country.

But without explaining the apparent contradiction, the radio also quoted him as saying he believed the proposed U.S. troop deployment was intended to help the Somali people.

It said Gen. Aideded appealed to Somali leaders to help allow humanitarian assistance to reach those needing it.

Canada announced it was sending 900 troops to Somalia, Britain offered four transport aircraft and cash.

Italy, a former colonial ruler of Somalia, will send 1,500 or more



Disarming the tens of thousands of freelance gunmen is the most daunting task facing the American-led force moving into Somalia (photo by P.V. Vivekanand)

troops by Christmas, Defence Minister Salvi Ando said in a television interview. He said they would include marines, paratroopers and logistical support units.

News reports said France would send 2,000 troops.

Belgium and Nigeria said they were still considering whether to send troops. Turkey said it was also undecided.

An Egyptian defence official said Thursday his country was preparing to send between 300 and 600 military personnel and was ready to increase this beyond 600 if the United Nations requested it. He said the Egyptian force would be ready to leave next week.

Others, like Britain, offered money and other help but said they would not send military personnel.

In Baghdad, Al Thawra, the newspaper of Iraq's ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party, said the U.S. move could not compensate for the Gulf war.

"America is trying through this military operation to beautify the Bush administration's image before he ends his regime," the newspaper said.

Iran was also cool. Its envoy to Bosnia Herzegovina, Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, said the United States was acting to "secure its own interests...but here (in Bosnia), they don't take any action."

The United States committed 20,000 troops in a huge humanitarian exercise authorised by the United Nations Thursday night.

Japan, which earlier this year passed a law allowing it to send troops abroad for U.N. peacekeeping, announced no plans to send soldiers. Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato told a news conference Japan was considering "logistical support."

Separately, Foreign Ministry spokesman Masamichi Hanabusa told journalists, "at this stage, it's still under study. The location is remote from Japan, and Japan's capabilities are limited."

Japan, which was criticised for "checkbook diplomacy" during the Gulf war, has already announced a \$27 million aid plan for Somalia.

Somalia could lead to new U.S. involvement in world's woes

By Barry Schweid
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — There is no whiff of any geopolitical dividend in the U.S. decision to use massive force to deliver food to hundreds of thousands of starving people in Somalia.

President George Bush told the nation Friday there was "one reason only" for dispatching the troops in Operation Restore Hope: To head off the death of 1.5 million people.

"Only the United States has the global reach to place a large security force on the ground in such a place quickly and efficiently, and thus save thousands of innocents from death," he told the nation.

Still, the United States runs the risk of being accused of African colonialism in a new form, of flexing its muscles once again to show the world it is a superpower.

But in the days leading up to the U.N. Security Council's approval of the U.S.-led operation, which could involve some 20,000 American troops, no-one made a credible case that the Bush administration was motivated by anything other than generosity.

During the cold war, Somalia was viewed both in Washington and in Moscow as having strategic value. The East African country was under the influence of, first, the Soviet Union and then, later, the United States.

Somalia still sits along the Red Sea across from the rich Arabian oil fields. But it no longer is the target of superpower rivalry.

The relief operation now getting under way is not a cynical ruse to gain favour with a potential client. It is simply the result of Somalia's internal agony, and the inability of the United Nations to provide assistance in the cross fire of feuding factions.

Mostly U.S. troops are taking on that dangerous task, and the operation smacks more of Vietnam and its dark shadows than the triumph over Iraq in the Gulf war.

Transportation lines will be vulnerable. There is no clearly identifiable enemy, nor can any of the local warlords be cast in the terms of a Saddam Hussein.

But like Indochina and the Gulf, the president is acting with little regard for Congress and its prerogatives. Congress is being consulted after the fact.

The cost to the U.S. taxpayer, meanwhile, is incalculable. When the United States agreed in October to transport 3,000 peacekeepers from other nations to Somalia, the idea was to charge the operation against the 30.4 per cent the United States pays of U.N. -ping operations.

Sending in 28,000 U.S. troops will cost many times more, and unlike the Gulf war, former Secretary of State James Baker is not going to the Gulf and Europe to solicit heavy cheques from Saudi Arabia, the Gulf emirates, Germany and other wealthy na-



Hungry Somalis waiting for international handouts at a feeding centre in the south (photo by P.V. Vivekanand)

Ali Mahdi and Aideded forces aggravated Somali problems

MOGADISHU — Two Somali warlords — one a former hotel owner, the other a former ambassador — are responsible for the deaths of thousands.

More than any other single factor, the blood feud between self-declared President Ali Mahdi Mohammed and his arch-rival "General" Mohammed Farah Aideded has led to the largest U.N. military venture ever mounted in Africa.

Their struggle for the leadership of the now-decrepit United Somali Congress (USC) killed and maimed at least 30,000, reduced this once-attractive capital to rubble, and dramatically worsened one of the worst famines this century.

Anyone who has witnessed the ruthlessness of both sides, whose militias kill, pillage, rape, and loot at random, finds it hard to believe they were once allies.

Ali Mahdi and Aideded come from different sub-clans of the Hawiye clan of central Somalia. Both men have more than one wife and several children — though only Aideded's live in the United States.

The Hawiye, traditionally merchants, traders and businessmen, were the last of the main clan groupings to rebel against the brutal rule of Mohammed Siad Barre. In 1989, they created the USC at a special conference in Rome.

Ali Mahdi — a wealthy hotel owner in this then-attractive Indian Ocean port city — bankrolled the Rome faction.

The Rome USC quickly established links with the "manifesto" group, promoted by Italy, one of Somalia's former colonial powers, which was calling for reform of the Siad Barre regime.

Meanwhile, Aideded, a military man trained by both the Italians and the Russians, was asked to lead the military wing.

He agreed and returned in secret from his posting as Siad Barre's ambassador in India.

In 1990, the original founders of the USC died, Ali Mahdi, 58, and Aideded, in his 70s, disputed the leadership.

Aideded went into exile in Ethiopia and in August 1991 signed a military pact with the two main groups then fighting Siad Barre — the Somali National Movement (SNM) of the north and Somali Patriotic Movement (SPM) of the south.

While the lobby of Ali Mahdi's Maka Al Makarama Hotel became the meeting point for USC sympathisers and foreign journalists, Aideded and his allies fought their way closer to the capital.

Long before the time of his fall, Siad Barre was dubbed the mayor of Mogadishu — so little of the country did he control.

When he fled Mogadishu in January 1991 following mutinies in his army and an uprising by the inhabitants, Ali Mahdi seized his chance and declared himself interim president.

Aideded stalked on the edge of the capital, deprived of the heroes' welcome he felt he deserved. Reconciliation talks led nowhere. Aideded's backers also felt betrayed. Somalia was carved up along clan lines.

Abdul Rahman Mohammad Ali "Tur" of the SNM declared a breakaway republic in the north, which had been British Somaliland in colonial days.

Ahmad Omar Jess, leader of the SPM and a hardened guerrilla fighter, carved out his own enclave in the Darod-dominated south.

Siad Barre had ruthlessly exploited clan differences to remain in power. Such was his legacy of suspicion and revenge that the main clans soon began to break up along sub-clan and even sub-sub-clan lines.

Ali Mahdi exploited these differences to create his own anti-Aideded alliance. The remnants of Siad Barre's army meanwhile pillaged his Gedo heartland, which borders Kenya.

The victors continued to squabble until the simmering hatred burst into the open last November. Aideded attacked Ali Mahdi, driving him back into the Karaan district of the Abgal sub-clan.

To do this he had brought to Mogadishu his Habir-Gedir fighters.

Most were young men and boys from the bush. Given a gun, the stimulant kat leaf, and a licence to kill, maim, rape and loot, they took it with a vengeance.

U.N. condemns 'rights abuses' in Iraq and voices concern over Iran

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A key U.N. committee Friday condemned alleged human rights abuses in Iraq and expressed grave concern over alleged rights violations in Iran, including executions and torture.

The General Assembly's Third Committee on Social and Humanitarian Affairs adopted the resolution on Iraq by consensus, without a vote. But the resolution on Iran was put to a vote for the first time in several years. It was approved 83-16, with 34 abstentions.

The resolution on Iran was stronger than in the past and for the first time the United States and Japan were among the 23 sponsors. The last vote in 1988 was 55-23 but more nations are now openly critical of Iran's human rights record.

The committee action is expected to be endorsed by the General Assembly. Decisions by the assembly and its committees are not legally binding. However, they are considered significant expressions of international will.

In the Iraq resolution, the committee expressed its "strong condemnation of the massive violations of human rights, of the gravest nature, for which the government of Iraq is responsible."

It cited summary and arbitrary executions, orchestrated mass executions and burials, extrajudicial killings, including political killings, particularly among Kurds in northern Iraq and Shiite Muslims in the south.

The committee also cited "the widespread, routine practice of systematic torture in its most cruel forms, including the torture of children."

In a resolution on Iran, the committee criticised the Tehran government for ending its cooperation with U.N. human rights investigators, refusing to permit visits and not responding to U.N. questions on violations.

It expressed deep concern at continuing reported violations of human rights in Iran. The committee cited the high number of executions, torture, poor administration of justice, lack of due legal process, mistreatment of the Baha'i religious community and restrictions on freedom of expression, thought and the press.

It expressed grave concern that despite U.N. recommendations "the applications of the death penalty has been excessive."

Iran also has denied widespread human rights violations.

Massoud Rajavi, an Iranian opposition leader based in Paris, said in a statement: "This resolution, the strongest ever adopted by the General Assembly, affirms in no uncertain terms that so long as the mullahs' regime is in power, mass killings, torture and executions in Iran and export of terrorism and fundamentalism will persist."

Sudan said to be facing 'Somalia-like' situation

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A key U.N. panel Friday adopted a harsh resolution on alleged human rights abuses in Sudan, whose Islamic fundamentalist government is accused of practising scorched-earth policies in a protracted civil war.

The resolution adopted by a committee of the General Assembly was the first one ever against Khartoum and was drawn up even before the U.N. Human Rights Commission completed its report of alleged rights violations there.

U.S. delegate Kenneth Blackwell said the humanitarian situation in the southern part of the country was approaching "a Somalia-like scenario."

He said the government needed to open up corridors for relief agencies or "we face a major humanitarian catastrophe."

The vote was 102-7 with 27 abstentions. Libya was the only African country to come to Sudan's support during debate and the vote. Diplomats said the vote reflected increasing concern among North African governments about spreading Islamic fundamentalism.

Sudanese delegates harshly condemned the resolution, saying none of the allegations in the document had been verified. U.N. human rights groups said the allegations were based on misinformation in the A press.

An estimated 500,000 have died in Sudan's old civil war, mainly famine, and another 4.5 have been displaced.

The civil war between Arab-dominated military in the north and southern rebel groups, Christian or animist, escalated this year when town was believed to have received arms from Iran.

The resolution expressed concern at the number of displacements, victims of discrimination, summary executions and the government has been accused of capturing or downing villages and sending them into the countryside.

The resolution also urged government to ensure prompt investigations into its national war foreign governments.

A Sudanese employee U.S. Agency for International Development was convicted and executed in Sudan. The government has vowed to investigate.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Seven men beheaded in Saudi Arabia

MANAMA (R) — Seven convicted criminals, including a man and a Filipino, were beheaded in Saudi Arabia Friday. An Ministry statement said a Saudi national of Sudanese origin first man's half sister after raping her. The statement, can Bahrain's Gulf News Agency, said three men convicted of were beheaded in the capital Riyadh. The Filipino, found of attempted murder, and a Nigerian drug trafficker were be in the Red Sea port city of Jeddah.

Austrian U.N. soldier dies in Cyprus

NICOSIA (R) — An Austrian soldier attached to the peacekeeping force in northern Cyprus was killed in a road Friday, Turkish Cypriot police said. The accident occurred the civilian-plated car of Michael Schmuck, 24, ploughed in parked vehicles on the Ismet Inonou boulevard in the north of Famagusta at 0200 hours (2400 GMT), police said. He died immediately while his companion, an Austrian sergeant last name was given as Frabre, escaped unhurt. Schmuck was handed over to U.N. officials across the green line in Nicosia. Both men were off duty when the accident occurred.

Moderate quake shakes western Turkey

IZMIR, Turkey (AP) — A moderate quake Saturday shook Aegean coastal city, the Anatolia news agency said. There were reports of injury or damage. The quake measured 4.3 Richter scale. An aftershock, which registered 3.5 on the scale, followed 10 minutes later, Anatolia said. In an earthquake here last month, some buildings were damaged, three people were injured. Turkey's Aegean and Mediterranean coastal areas and the entire eastern region are atop an earthquake belt known as the Anatolian Fault. The Richter scale gauge of an energy released by an earthquake, as measured ground motion recorded on a seismograph. An earthquake on the Richter scale can cause slight damage in the local area moderate damage.

U.S. to replace missile-hit Turkish ship

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey will receive a Knox-class frigate the United States as compensation for a warship written off being hit by a missile from the aircraft carrier Saratoga, a newspaper reported Saturday. Five Turkish seamen, including captain, were killed when one of two missiles fired by mistake the carrier slammed into the bridge of the Muavenet on C. Another 18 Turkish crewmen were wounded. The Pentagon last month the missiles were fired in error during NATO exercise in the Aegean and eight crew of the Saratoga, including its commander, were killed. Milliyet said the United States send a 12-year-old Knox-class frigate to Istanbul for the navy to inspect. It would be handed to Turkey as compensation the World War II vintage Muavenet, written off after lost bridge and command centre in the incident, the daily added paper did not say which Knox-class frigate would be given Turkey.

Anderson celebrates first year of freedom

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former hostage Terry Anderson celebrated the first anniversary of his release from captivity Friday. Roman Catholic mass presided over by his fellow hostage, the Martin Jenco. Mr. Anderson left Beirut for freedom on Dec. 1991, after more than six years in chains, longer than any Westerner kidnapped in Lebanon. The former Associated Press Middle East correspondent was also the last Westerner to be released. "Give praise and thanks to a gentle God who free," said Rev. Jenco at the children's mass celebrated at the Trinity Church in Georgetown. Rev. Jenco was freed in 1995 2 years in the hands of his kidnappers. Mr. Anderson is working on a book on his experiences, due to be completed April. "I try to put myself back," he said, to the years of chained, blindfolded and kept in solitary confinement, sometimes it's pretty hard."

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Reve's d'enlants
17:40	JEUX Sans Frontiers
17:50	News French
18:15	Documentary
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Family Matters
21:10	National Geographic
22:00	News in English
22:30	Law and Order
PRAYER TIMES	
06:54	Fajr
06:16	(Sunrise) Dhuha
11:24	Ohour
16:13	'Asr
16:36	Maghrib
17:58	Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifich Tel. 810740	
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637441	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terrence Church Tel. 622366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623441	
Anglican Church Tel. 630851	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 628543	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772611	
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751	
Assyrian International Church Tel. 683326	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932	
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675491	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly light to moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.	
Min/Max Temp.	
Amman	04/18
Aqaba	03/17
Deserts	03/13
Jordan Valley	10/12

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR	
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 11, Aqaba 19. Humidity readings: Amman 48 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent.	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:	
Dr. Walid Al Masri	675485
Dr. Abdul Kader Al Lala	696048
Dr. Subashan Esmat	784772
Dr. Nidal Al Dahhal	627195
Firas pharmacy	661912
Fondows pharmacy	778336
Al Asara pharmacy	637055
Nafrouh pharmacy	626702
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shindan pharmacy	637650
Fifth circle pharmacy	813141
Samir pharmacy	661898
Talal pharmacy	621366
Al Asara pharmacy	624425
Al Asara pharmacy	777712
Al Asara pharmacy	888981
Hikmah pharmacy	771997
IBRD:	
Dr. Mohammad Abu Salem	345060
Aleqah pharmacy	(-)
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Rescue	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Shedden Hospital	775121
Highway Police	643402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	638531
Amman Municipality	609800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	897467
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	623101
Repairs	623101
Abdullah Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	773111
Water Authority	680100
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn	642816
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn	642412
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Mathes, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeican	664171/4
Shmeican Hospital	669131
University Hospital	643845
Amal Hospital	667279
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Italian, Al-Mubajreen	77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	77511/26
Army, Marka	891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	667279
ZARQA:	
Zarga Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarga National Hospital	(09)905660
Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital	(09)909090
IBRD:	
Princess Basma Hospital	(02)725555
Greek Catholic Hospital	(02)722725
Jordan Electricity Authority	
Electric Power	815615
Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	773200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	08-53200
FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
9:00	Jeddah (RJ)
09:15	Aqaba (RJ)
09:25	Laraca (RJ)
09:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:15	Beirut (RJ)
10:30	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:30	Braunels, Paris (RJ)
17:30	London, Geneva (RJ)
18:00	Albaha (RJ)
19:00	Frankfurt (RJ)
19:55	Vienna (RJ)
20:45	Rome (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
09:35	Cairo (GF)
12:30	Bahrain (GF)
14:30	Moscow (SU)
16:55	Laraca (CY)
19:50	Beirut (ME)
DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
06:15	Beirut (RJ)
07:00	Aqaba (RJ)
08:30	Frankfurt (RJ)
10:30	Vienna (RJ)
10:50	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:00	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30	Rome (RJ)
12:00	Athens (RJ)
12:30	Riyadh (RJ)
13:00	London (RJ)
13:15	Damascus (RJ)
13:25	Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
13:45	New Delhi (RJ)
14:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
15:00	Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)
15:15	Bangkok (RJ)
15:45	Sanaa (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
09:30	Beirut, Rome (A2)
10:25	Cairo (MS)
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in US\$	
Apple	70
Banana	70
Banana (Mukammal)	60
Beans	13
Cabbage	25
Carrot	25
Cauliflower	25
Cucumbers (large)	25
Cucumbers (small)	25
Eggplant	25
Garlic	25
Grapefruit	25
Lemon	25
Marrow (large)	20
Marrow (small)	20
Onion (dry)	25
Onion (green)	25
Orange	25
Pepper (hot)	25
Pepper (sweet)	25
Potato	25
Tomato	25
Spinach	25
Mint	25
Green Olive	25

Home News

Bakers warned against low quality bread

Amman (Petra) — Minister of Supply Mohammad Saqqaf Saturday visited the northern city of Irbid where he warned local bakers against violating the regulations concerning prices or quality of bread. "The Ministry Supply is keen on providing bakers with good quality bread and on facilitating the availability of flour for bakeries and merchants, but will not be lenient with those who violate the regulations concerning bread quality in bakeries," said Mr. Saqqaf.

The minister first met with Governor Fayed Abbadi to review the general supply situation in the Irbid governorate and regional problems. He later opened the centres for the distribution of wheat flour in Ajloun, Jerash and Deir Al Zor, all in the Irbid governorate. In a statement said, that the ministry was keen to make available sufficient supplies in all regions especially under the difficult weather conditions.

Irbid Chamber of Commerce President Saadi Halaboni presented the minister with a list of requests on behalf of local merchants in Irbid City.

The demands included facilities from the Ministry of Supply for local merchants to have access to food supplies imported by the ministry. They also demanded that the Irbid supply department be allowed to conduct its own import operations so that local merchants would be saved the trouble of contacting the ministry in Amman for their needs of various quantities.

During the tour the minister announced that supply departments in northern regions will be working overtime to receive the price of food supplies from local merchants.

He also announced that special accountants will be appointed and that American rice will be made available in the local markets instead of the existing brands.

Arab education discussed in Amman

Amman (Petra) — Delegates from Jordan and eight other Arab states gathered at the National Educational Research and Development Centre in Amman today for a five day meeting to discuss educational innovation and to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

According to UNESCO officials, the participants will review the state of educational research and development in education, employment of educational staff and statistics in educational research programmes, analysing the state of educational research and ways of aiding decision makers in their task.

Addressing the opening session, Deputy Premier and Minister of Education Thaouan Hindawi noted that decision concerning the improvement of education should be based on data and statistics and accurate information. He said Jordan calls for the creation of an Arab national information network to help educational planning and research.

He also noted that the ministry would help them confront common challenges.

Mr. Hindawi said Jordan was keen on pursuing close cooperation with UNESCO's regional office in matters related to educational activities. UNESCO's representative in Jordan Dr. Salah Yaqoub told the audience that the UNESCO had endorsed plans for supporting individual Arab countries to ensure that their needs of educational services are met. According to the national centre's director Kamal Duwani, developing nations including Jordan are unable on their own to find appropriate solutions for their educational problems and are unable to cope with socio-economic development needs.

He referred to the ongoing educational overhauling process in Jordan as one aspect of the country's endeavours to meet the future needs.

As well as Jordan, the meetings are attended by delegates from Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Tunisia, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain in addition to UNESCO experts and educationists.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King sends cable to Finland

Amman (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent Saturday a cable to Finnish President Mauno Koivisto congratulating him on his country's independence day anniversary. King Hussein wished Dr. Koivisto good health and happiness and the Finnish people further progress and prosperity.

Kabariti visits Karak labour office

Amman (Petra) — Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti visited Saturday Karak Governorate where he inspected the employment office. Mr. Kabariti was briefed on the work of the office in controlling the labour market in the governorate and providing job opportunities for unemployed Jordanians. The minister also met with the chairman and members of the new municipal council in Karak city and was briefed on the municipal council's work plans. He also inspected projects carried out by the Jordanian investment department of the social security corporation in Karak.

Joint Chief of Staff thanks Madab Islamic committee

Amman (Petra) — Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb sent Saturday a letter to the Islamic Committee for popular work in Madab city, thanking its members for their JD 2000 contribution to the People's Army. Marshal Abu Taleb commended the committee members for the committee's members of their initiative and true national feelings.

Zarqa celebrates international volunteers day

Amman (Petra) — Omar Ben Al Khatib Charitable Society in Zarqa celebrated Saturday's international volunteers day. The celebration, which was attended by Zarqa Governor Talat Al Jawasreh, included speeches underlining the importance of voluntary work in serving the local society. Several personalities were honoured at the celebration in recognition of their role in voluntary work.

Traffic accident figures for November released

Amman (Petra) — Nine people were killed and 156 others injured in 350 car accident which took place in the last week of November, the Traffic Department announced Saturday. The department said the number of accidents during this week had risen by 36, deaths by six and injuries by 24 compared to the previous week.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Turki Abdul Amir at the Alia Art Gallery.
- * Exhibition of paintings and silkscreen by three artists from Gaza Fayed Al Hassani, Kamel Al Mughani and Laiba Shawwa at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.).
- * Art exhibition by artist Ghassan Abu Lahab at Phoenix Art Gallery.
- * Sculpture exhibition by artist Ahmad Saad Mohabati at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- * Exhibition by Iraqi artist Shaker Hassan Al Saeed at the Jordan Gallery of Fine Arts.

BAZAAR

- * The third Al Amal bazaar at the International Jerusalem Hotel, open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.



Queen Saturday chairs meeting with officials from the Arab Institute for Banking Studies in Amman (Petra photo)

Queen visits banking institute

AMMAN (J.T.) — Queen Noor visited Saturday morning the Arab Institute for Banking Studies in Amman, where she was briefed on the activities and programmes of the institute.

The Queen was received by institute's Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Mohammad Sa'eed Al-Nabulsi and other board members. General Manager Dr. Mustafa Hudaib briefed the Queen on the Institute's programmes and the objectives.

The Queen inspected various facilities at the institute, which was established in 1989 upon the initiative of the Arab Banking Union. The institute also initiated an MBA scholarship programme for candidates to be nominated by the Noor Al-Hussein Foundation (NHF). In addition, free-of-charge training courses in banking will be offered to NHF nominees.

The Institute for Banking Studies offers a number of specialized academic programmes which are accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education. Its academic programmes which combine practical and technical skills consist of a masters programme as well as a high diploma degree in banking and financial studies and in Islamic banking.

Dr. Nabulsi told the Queen that the institute, the first of its kind in the Arab world, does not conflict with those individual institutes found in Arab countries. He said that the institute which offers training in financial, monetary and banking matters can be described as complementary to those Arab institutes.

Dr. Nabulsi noted that since its establishment the institute has run 38 training programmes for the benefit of 2,466 candidates from Arab countries including Jordan.

Arabiyyat meets premier and press delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker visited Saturday Parliament where he met with Lower House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyyat to congratulate him on his re-election.

Sharif Zeid and Dr. Arabiyyat discussed several issues of concern to the executive and legislative authorities, particularly in the parliament's current ordinary session.

In another meeting with a delegation representing the Jordan Press Association (JPA), Dr. Arabiyyat said that he has decided to extend the office hours of the executive bureau of the House to enable it to discuss and follow up issues of concern to citizens.

Dr. Arabiyyat stressed to the delegation, the important role the press plays in illuminating problems facing citizens and publishing various points of views. He affirmed that all citizens should contribute to safeguarding the democratic era; "through which our society moves from the stage of individual domination to the institutional era."

"All citizens are partners in building and developing the homeland and safeguarding it and its good march which is led by His Majesty King Hussein," he said.

He expressed his readiness to hold joint meetings between the JPA council and Lower House members to discuss issues of concern to the Jordanian press and journalists with the aim of creating interaction between the legislative authority and the press.

The House speaker demonstrated understanding of the various issues related to practising journalism in Jordan as a profession, reorganising it and reviewing legislations governing it to make it compatible with the democratic atmosphere prevailing in Jordan.

JPA President Sulaiman Al Qudah who headed the delegation underlined the important role of the JPA, and described it as a national institution carrying out its national and pan-Arab duty in the best possible manner.

Mr. Qudah outlined the responsibilities of the press at the current stage and in the future and voiced Jordanian journalists' determination to preserve the freedom of expression and respect for human rights.

Airline operators discuss false travel documents

A historic meeting of the Airline Operators Committee (AOC) of Cyprus was held in Amman Thursday.

The AOC, which comprises of station managers of airlines operating into Larnaca, Cyprus, held its meeting in the Regency Palace Hotel.

Problems, together with recommendations from the AOC were brought to the attention of the airport authorities.

One of the items discussed during the meeting was the serious problems that airlines face with passengers who travel with false travel documents. As it is the airlines that have to pay the heavy fines imposed by certain countries which do not accept those passengers, the AOCs of both Cyprus and Jordan discussed in detail ways of dealing with this very serious problem. Both AOCs also agreed to the cooperation between them so as to further effectively deal with the problem.

AL WALIMA FOOD SUPPLIES

ANNOUNCES

The arrival of USA whole turkeys & ducklings directly from Arkansas Hudson Foods from USA & are being served in the Amman Marriott Hotel & the Regency Palace Hotel & are available for sale in the following supermarkets.

1. Sweet Supermarket
2. Jordan Supermarket
3. Grand Supermarket
4. Al Waddan Supermarket
5. Babel Supermarket

For more information, contact tel. 826298

Al Wallima Food Supplies

Amman awaits home delivery post service

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanians will no longer waste their time and money to reach their destinations in Amman. The Greater Amman Municipality will embark on a project to name streets as of Saturday. Streets will be named and houses numbered as a first step towards post home delivery.

"This plan of action of naming streets and suburbs in Amman has already been put into effect in ten different areas of Amman," Mohammad Bashir, Greater Amman Municipality Mayor said at a press conference Saturday. "By the end of the year, naming and numbering will be realised in the remaining four areas."

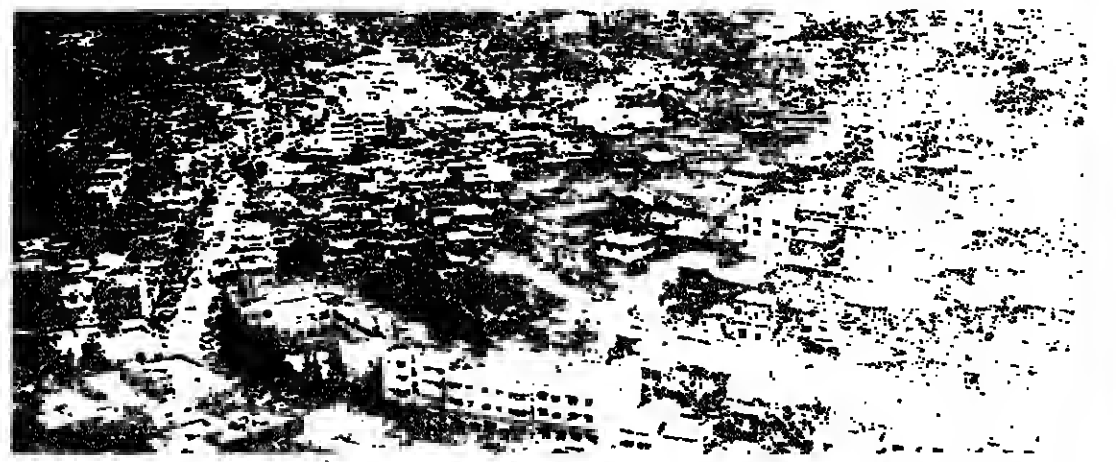
All details concerning naming streets and different areas in Amman will be fully explained in a guide book issued by the municipality and sold at a low cost, while plans of each area will be distributed to residents free. In the near future, an English edition of the guide book will also be issued, Mr. Bashir said.

"We have to raise awareness among the public of the need to use the new names given to streets instead of the old ones," insisted Mr. Bashir, referring to the previous plan adopted in 1965 for the organisation and numbering of streets which had failed.

"The process would not be an easy thing at the beginning but it is for the benefit of the country," Names of the streets will be taken from Arab heritage and culture as well as prominent personalities in Jordan. They will include those of the Hashemite Kings, royal family members, famous Arab, Islamic leaders and battles, and leaders of the Great Arab Revolt.

When the project is finalised, the current Post Office Box system will no longer operate; letters will be delivered at home by postmen, according to Mr. Bashir.

"Coordination between different ministries and departments and the municipality will be put into effect in the coming few weeks," Mr. Al Bashir said. "Postal services will reach all families at their respective homes provided that each house supply a box of its own."



The streets with no name: Establishing a postal service in Amman is likely to be a major task

1993 financial pledges to UNRWA announced

AMMAN (J.T.) — Pledges of financial contributions to support the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) for 1993 were announced at the annual pledging conference for UNRWA in New York last week. UNRWA has total budget requirements of some \$297 million for its programmes in 1993, as well as needing some \$14 million to continue emergency operations in Lebanon and the Israeli-occupied territory at their present level.

Thirty-four countries plus the European Community and the Holy See were represented at the conference. Among the largest pledges announced were from Norway, for some \$10.366 million; Germany, for the equivalent of \$8.875 million, and the Netherlands, for nearly \$7 million.

Switzerland announced a pledge combining cash and food aid worth a total of some \$6.8 million. France's pledge of more than 17 million francs, or some \$3.167 million, represents an increase of 41 per cent over its pledged contribution to UNRWA for last year. Denmark pledged the equivalent of some \$2.75 million as well as pledging to continue underwriting the running costs of UNRWA's training centres at Ramallah in the West Bank.

The two biggest pledges from Arab donors were from Kuwait (\$1.75 million) and Saudi Arabia (\$1.2 million).

Pledges announced by seven of the 12 members of the European Community were in addition to their contributions through the EC as a whole. The individual and combined contributions of the 12 constitute the largest source of voluntary funding for UNRWA, with total contributions in 1992 worth some \$105 million. The EC itself, however, was not able to announce a pledge for 1993 on Wednesday, as a new convention between UNRWA and the Community is currently being negotiated for the period 1993-95. The delegate of the EC Commission told the conference that the Community's strong support for UNRWA, including food aid and other emergency assistance, would continue to 1993.

A number of the traditionally largest donors to UNRWA's budget, including the United States, Sweden, Japan and the United Kingdom, were not able to announce pledges of Wednesday's conference, as their governments or parliaments had not completed the necessary budgetary procedures. Another major donor, Italy, was not present at the conference.

The pledging conference was opened by the President of the United Nations General Assembly Stoyan Ganev, who is Bulgaria's Foreign Minister. In his statement, he said the General Assembly's renewal this year of UNRWA's mandate for another three years "will remind the refugees, as well as the rest of us in the international community, that our obligation to them has not been forgotten amidst all the political changes sweeping across the world."

Mr. Ganev said the need for broad and deep international financial support for UNRWA was greater than ever.

In their statements to the conference, a number of delegates echoed UNRWA Commissioner-General Ilter Turkmen's repeated appeals for greater financial contributions to the Agency, particularly from the wealthier governments in the Middle East region.

Speaking at the end of the conference, Commissioner-General Turkmen thanked those governments which had announced pledges and reiterated his view that "efforts on behalf of the Palestine refugees should be more balanced and better shared" by a broadening of the base of contributors to UNRWA.

However, the Commissioner-General said that UNRWA could face an overall cash shortfall of some \$20 million in resources for its ongoing programmes in 1993 if there is no improvement in prospects for voluntary contributions to the Agency. He warned that UNRWA could be forced to introduce cuts in its budget, leading to a reduction in services, unless we can persuade existing and potential donors to be more generous. "These budget cuts, he said, would send the wrong signal," in that "the Palestinian community should not be given the impression that it is being neglected."

Row continues over orthodox land sold to Israelis

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Members of the Orthodox community in Jordan and the occupied territories will hold their fifth general conference in Amman Tuesday to discuss matters related to means of protecting Orthodox real estate and holy shrines in the occupied lands.

At least 150 prominent community members from various towns and villages in Palestine and Jordan also will attend the meeting plan to examine ways of preventing any one from leasing or illegally handling Arab Orthodox real estates and also ways to enable the Arab Orthodox community to determine their own affairs by themselves, socially, culturally and religiously, said Dr. Raouf Abu Jaber, Chairman of the Orthodox Arab Society in Jordan.

Dr. Abu Jaber told the Jordan Times that the conference which will be held under the slogan towards a Comprehensive Orthodox Renaissance "is being organised by a preparatory committee comprising eight prominent personalities."

A preparatory meeting attended by 196 delegates was held in Jerusalem last October in order to prepare an agenda for the meeting.

Last August, delegates from the Arab Orthodox committee in Palestine and Jordan issued a statement accusing the Greek Orthodox church in Arab Jerusalem of leasing Arab Orthodox real estate to the Israelis.

Dr. Abu Jaber provided the Jordan Times with a document of a lease of church estate concluded between the Greek church and Israel.

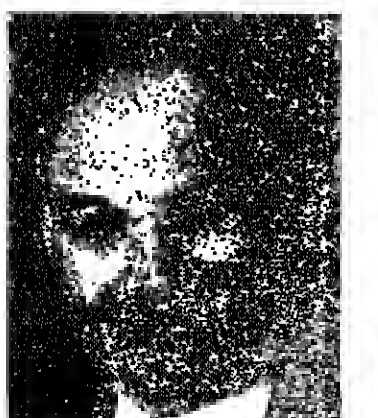
The lease document pinpoints the exact plots of land and buildings where the Israeli lease holders can erect buildings or other facilities.

The size of the Orthodox community in Jordan and Palestine is estimated at 200,000. Their religious affairs and church estate are handled by what is called the Holy Sepulchre Brotherhood which has 94 members all of whom are Greek except for two Arab citizens, Dr. Abu Jaber noted.

Dr. Abu Jaber said that the Arab Orthodox community is now seeking a speedy amendment to the 1958 Jordanian law on the Greek Orthodox church in a bid to protect Arab rights and interests.

Greek Arab delegates met with Parliament members in Amman in August to present their case and they have received support from the deputies. According to Dr. Abu Jaber the fourth Orthodox conference was held in Jerusalem in March of 1996.

One of the deputies, Fakhri Kassar, said after the meeting that the actions of the Greek Patriarch were harming Islamic as well as Christian communities in



Dr. Raouf Abu Jaber

interests in Palestine and causing grave danger to the Palestinian cause.

He said that any tampering with the Arab lands and rights whether Christian or Islamic in Palestine would adversely affect the Arab cause in Palestine and encourage the Israelis to pursue their settlement policies.

وزارة الاشغال العامة والاسكان
دائرة العطاءات الحكومية

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & HOUSING
GOVERNMENT TENDERS DIRECTORATE

Ministry of Public Works & Housing Government Tenders Directorate General Tenders Announcement. Invitation to Tenders No. (212,213/92)

Local contractors classified in field of buildings classification first or second and international contractors in the same field and classification who are interested in participating in this tender are requested to contact the Government Tender Directorate at Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Amman, Jordan to receive tender documents starting from 5/12/1992 and in accordance with the following terms:

Tender No.	Description	Last date for purchase of Tender Documents	Last date for submit of Tender
(212/92)	1. Construction of Burma Seco. boys school area/(3595)m ² . Jarash. 2. Construction of Al Kiteh Seco. girls school area/(3227)m ² . Jarash.	29/12/1992	5/1/1993 Tuesday
(213/92)	1. Construction of Al Deir Al Sharki Seco. girls school area/(3227)m ² . Jarash. 2. Construction of Daher Al Sero Elem. girls school area/(2981)m ² . Jarash.	2/1/1993	9/1/1993 Saturday

- a. The project partially financed by the sector loan.
- b. Work load will be considered in awarding.
- c. Tender price JD 200 for each tender set (non-refundable).
- d. Offers shall be submitted to the Government Directorate before 13:30 local time on the mentioned date.

Chairman, Central Tender Committee
Government Tenders Directorate
Eng. Basheer Al Jaghbeer

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف اليومية العربية السياسية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

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Editor-in-Chief:
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Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

A prudent budget for 1993

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

Traditionally, the central government budget used to grow faster than the national economy. In 1990 and 1991, for instance, public expenditure (the budget) reached 46.9 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), which is a very high percentage, and an indication of an inflated role of government in the economic life of the country.

Thanks to the Economic Adjustment Programme, the ratio of the budget to GDP declined to 40.9 per cent in 1992. A further decline to 39.2 per cent is planned for 1993, an indication of a new healthy development in the right direction. The 1993 budget increased in absolute figures, but at a rate lower than the rate of economic growth.

This is of course the best and safest way to correct the distortion. Any attempt to reduce public expenditure would be extremely difficult in practical terms, and very costly in social and political terms. This course of action is possible only in an environment of high economic growth, which is the case in Jordan since mid-1991, i.e., in the aftermath of the Gulf war.

To understand and evaluate the trends underlying the draft budget of 1993, it would not be productive to compare its figures with the corresponding figures of the 1992 budget, which has no more value except in judging the ability of the budget managers in

making accurate predictions. It is more meaningful to make the comparison with the actual figures of the 1992 as reestimated now.

To prove the above point, we draw the attention to the fact that domestic revenue projected for 1993 is 27.5 per cent above the corresponding figure for domestic revenue in the 1992 budget. This suggests that domestic revenue may have been overstated in the 1993 budget to a large degree. However, the picture becomes more convincing and credible when we find out that the 1993 budget expected growth in domestic revenue of no more than 4.2 per cent above the level actually achieved in 1992. Which is way below the estimated growth rate of 15 per cent in current prices of the gross domestic product.

On the other hand, the recurring expenditure projected in the 1993 budget was above the actual reestimated expenditure of 1992 by only JD 55.7 million, or 5.9 per cent.

Capital expenditure allowed for 1993 is only 3.2 per cent higher than the allotted amount in the 1992 budget, but it is 25 per cent above the capital expenditure actually incurred in 1992. There is, of course, no reason to believe that such a big amount will be actually spent in 1993.

In general, the total budget for the 1993 reflects a growth per cent in current prices, and almost zero growth in real prices.

Taking into account that the gross domestic product in 1992 grew at 11.9 per cent in real terms, we can realise that Jordanian government had abandoned the policy of cash growth of its budget. It is giving the private sector an important role to play. Privatisation starts with a smaller budget liberated economy. The 1993 budget was a step forward in the right direction. The high growth of revenue is not being met by a similar increase in expenditure. It is partially used to offset the deficit.

The deficit in the 1993 draft budget, before foreign aid projected to be JD 197.9 million. It may rise to JD 342.9 million if we add off-budget payments of interest related to the Arms Fund. The above economic deficit will be covered by 11 million of foreign grants, and JD 192.9 million of net borrowed money. Most likely, borrowing will be less, due to the expected savings in the capital expenditure budget. All in all, the budget will show a deficit of 5.5 per cent of GDP, which will turn out to be a 3.7 per cent, which is in line with the targets set by the adjustment programme.

Reaffirmation of trust

THE EIGHTH round of bilateral peace talks between Israel and the Arabs begins in Washington Monday with two positive notes: The amendment to an Israeli law banning contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the success of the foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt during their Beirut meeting Friday in persuading the Palestinian side to continue the negotiations.

The lifting of the archaic and self-defeating Israeli legislation prohibiting talks with members of the PLO could be a prelude to further erosion of the Jewish state's rejection of the PLO as a partner in the peace process. Hopefully, the full integration of the sole recognised representative of the Palestinians into the peace talks could be the next step. This would remove one of the big remaining obstacles in efforts to resolve once and for all the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its dimensions. This development would also encourage the Palestinian side to have more faith in the peace process.

The Arab foreign ministers' decision to apply some "pressure" on the Palestinians to attend the next round of bilateral talks is a clear signal to Palestinian rejectionists that the concerned Arab capitals feel strongly enough about Palestinian continuation in the peace negotiations to insist on it. The divided Palestinian house on the viability of the peace negotiations with Israel has effectively hampered the Palestinian determination to explore the avenue of peace in order to settle their case. They must persevere and probe Israeli intentions to establish a *modus vivendi* with them till the bitter end. The Arab countries' clear position on the need to take part in the continuing rounds of the bilateral peace talks has effectively nullified the tug out from under the feet of those factions that would rather forsake the peace initiative than give it a chance to blossom and bear fruit.

Whether the eighth round of talks will be eventful or not, in view of the wait-and-see perspective to which practically all the parties seem to subscribe pending the changing of the guard at the White House on January 20th, both sides of the fence are still committed to the search for a just and permanent resolution of the Palestinian question and the other Arab-Israeli conflicts. This proves beyond any shadow of doubt that the faith and trust in the US-brokered peace initiative is still strong and vibrant.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

SAWT AL SHAAB daily said Saturday that the Arab foreign ministers' meeting held in Beirut was of paramount importance coming on the eve of the eighth round of Arab-Israeli negotiations in Washington. Dr. Abu Jaber and other heads of delegations have all stated that Arab coordination efforts were a reply to Yitzhak Rabin's manoeuvres and repeated attempts to create a rift in Arab ranks and sign separate deals with Arab parties, noted the daily. A united Arab front is not only a necessary step for the Arabs to ensure their rights but it is also a means of exposing the true stand of the Israeli government before the world public opinion, added the paper. It said that the first reaction to Israel's procrastination came from its ally, the United States, which blamed Israel for the slow progress in the talks aimed at a peaceful settlement due mainly to Rabin's tactics. The paper underlined Jordan's continued role to cement a united Arab stand vis-a-vis Israel's manoeuvres, noting that King Hussein has repeatedly stressed that Jordan can never go it alone with Israel and that Arab coordination was of utmost importance for all parties. At the same time, said the daily, Jordan was instrumental in exposing Israel's evil intentions which aimed at keeping Europe away from the peace process. The paper said that King Hussein has been urging France and the European countries to assume a meaningful role in this process and help remove all obstacles placed by Israel in the path of peace. The paper cast gloom on the outcome of the coming session noting that as it takes place at a transitional moment at the White House, nothing serious can be expected to come from the upcoming meetings.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily criticised the Islamic foreign ministers who held a meeting last week in Saudi Arabia, noting that the outcome of their deliberations came to naught. This meeting proved that Saudi Arabia has the power to gather delegates from more than 40 Islamic nations and then allow them to leave through the back doors without achieving anything, said Tareq Masarweh. The conference has ended in failure since the Muslim people in the Bosnia Herzegovina have not received any help from the Muslim nations, while the Serbian attacks continue unabated, said the writer. The conference also failed since the question of Somalia which was reviewed by the ministers remained unresolved, with thousands dying of starvation daily. The writer said that while the Arabs failed to send any food supplies to Somalia, the United States chose to send troops to the African nation without being asked to do so by the Muslim countries. He also noted that the United States has so far refrained from sending troops to former Yugoslavia to end the Serbian aggression although the Muslim countries have been demanding that force should be used to stop the Serbs. At the same time the writer noted, that the United States condones its efforts to dismember Iraq, starve its people and prevent Islamic nations from extending help to the Iraqi population. The writer called on the Islamic countries to free themselves from tutelage and subjugation to others and take meaningful decisions that can be of benefit to their nations.

Building peace needs a solid foundation

By Abdul Jawad Saleh

THE search for a just and comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict is likely to be a long and weary one, and unless the proper criteria are established right now, it will also be futile. Unless the foundations are solid, the peace will not stand.

Given the unjust and concessionary opening terms of reference upon which the peace process was launched a year ago, there is an even greater necessity to ensure that any agreement reached between Israel and the various Arab parties facilitates, and does not foreclose, the attainment of each party's legitimate rights.

Arab states have castigated Israeli attention to the principles of the negotiations as "foot-dragging" and as evidence of Israel's unwillingness to meaningfully engage in the process. But what is becoming more obvious is that such attention to basic definitions is vital, because the final settlement will be determined by agenda agreements and procedural modalities. While Israel has indeed been trying to exasperate the Arab parties, just as they did during the negotiations of 1949 when they occupied Um Rashrash (Eilat), they have also been trying to establish the groundwork to ensure that their terms of peace, which exclude the "land for peace" formula, ultimately predominate.

For years Israel has fought over terminology, procedural modalities and the composition of the Palestinian delegation, as part of its ulterior motive to deny the connection of the Palestinian people to their land and specifically to Jerusalem, and thus to reject their right to self-determination. Concessions granted to Israel through "terminology" facilitate Israel's attempts to denigrate the Palestinian people into an ethnic minority, whose rights are limited to the running of their daily affairs but not their land, economy or resources. Thus the proposed Palestinian administrative council will be restricted to implementing military orders issued by an Israeli military government which will remain the source of authority. This will constitute de facto annexation and the establishment of greater Israel. In addition, acceptance of the terms "terrorism" and "terrorists," which have no common understanding, and in light of Israel's usage of such terms to describe, for example, the intifada facilitates Israel's campaign to denigrate legitimate Palestinian activists.

Given the historical antecedents of the conflict, it must be established that the territories occupied in 1967 are both "Palestinian" and "under occupation," and thus necessitate an Israeli withdrawal. By defining the West Bank and Gaza as "territories presently under Israeli military government control," without an understanding that the territories are under occupation, and that 242 explicitly requires withdrawal, at a certain stage, a peaceful settlement becomes impossible. As Halder Abdul Shafi, the head of the Palestinian negotiating team, is reported to have said to Israel's team leader Elyakim Rubinstein, "if the land is not occupied in the interim phase how will it come to be occupied later?"

Israel has consistently rejected the idea of having defined "national" boundaries and a constitution which binds its political and military establishments to the principles of international law. This failure to delineate boundaries has allowed Israel to impose its territorial jurisdiction over areas which surpass the limits of the U.N. partition plan of 1947. Conceding that territorial compromise is to be based only on territories occupied in 1967 has given Arab and international recognition of Israeli control over these areas occupied in 1948, as Israel proper.

According to David Singer, convenor of the "Jordan is Palestine" committee, the basic policy guidelines of the Labour Likud 1988 coalition government's programme state that "Israel will oppose the establishment of an additional Palestinian state in the Gaza District and in the area between Israel and Jordan."

The words "additional Palestinian state" he says, "were chosen very deliberately because there was clear recognition by both Labour and Likud that there was already in existence in 80 per cent of former Palestine a Palestinian state called Jordan... Mr. Rabin himself has proclaimed that Jordan comprises almost four-fifths of Palestine."

Mr. Singer suggests that the Israeli Foreign Ministry should "continuously promote and disseminate this information to a world that continues to believe that the Palestinian Arabs are stateless and lack self-determination." These territories, Israel claims, were "designated by the mandate for reconstitution as a Jewish state; they were, by international law, inseparable parts of

the State of Israel... Judea, Samaria and Gaza are, then, not conquered territories, and the rules of the Geneva Protocols relating to military conquest territories do not apply to them; nor do Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338." The joint Republican and Democrat Baltimore conference of 1942, which endorsed transfer, as well as the revelations of Alec Kirkbride, the architect of British policy in the Middle East, in his book "Crackle of Thorns," of the existence of a Western allies' plan to transfer Palestinians to Jordan once the Jewish state was established, help explain

Jordan; and secondly, in accepting such a definition the Arabs will have voluntarily given up the international rights to the occupied territories, in which Israel was considered a belligerent power occupying another state's lands. For whereas the engagement of 1988 was only administrative, legitimising it through an international agreement would give Israel a great advantage. According to international law this constitutes a cession of territories, and might lead to a "recognition, which stops third parties," the Palestinians in this case, "from contesting the validity of a

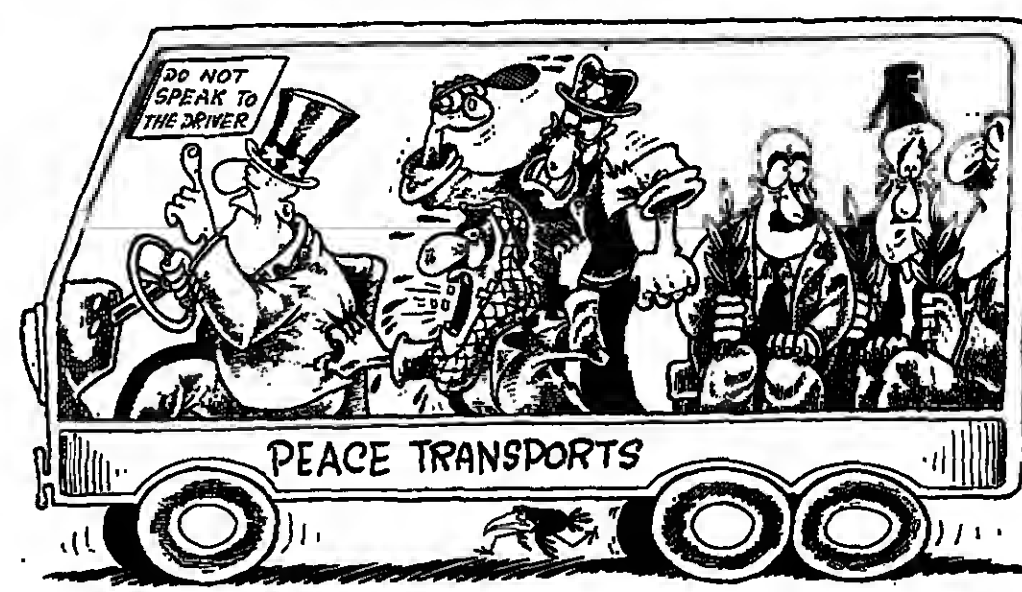
law, silence of parties concerned might be interpreted as an implied recognition of such an agreement, especially when it is endorsed by one partner of a joint-delegation. In such a case, under international law, there are two steps which could be taken; first, the Palestinian people's legitimate claim to the occupied territories would need to be recorded with various international bodies, such as the U.N., EC and the Arab League, reaffirming their territorial rights and unequivocally asserting their inalienable rights, which the definition might otherwise jeopardise. And second, the PLO could

half of the occupied territories facilitates the realisation of Israeli motives behind insistence on postponing of these issues a stage. It also sets a precedent for the PLO, track in which Israel is currently: force the Palestinians to just such a definition of land and water of the Bank and Gaza Strip.

Agreeing to a "solution" in accordance with international law, "with pliancy referring to the Nations resolution," "return" potentially mines the very attack that "just solution" absence of an agreement a common understanding what is and is not international law, the ambiguity which can be exploited by the strong. Ultimately, the "good faith" and "no commitment," which constitute basis of international law lead to a failure to a just solution to the problem as defined resolutions. One such of Israel's flagrant lack faith and moral compass is its rejection, in the lateral talks, of even the right of Palestinian lives, such as those who lived the Sabra and massacres orchestrated Israel, or those expelled Kuwait, to reunification. Further, international law essentially based on terms such as consent, and good faith, which are recognised by Israel will hence to the Palestinian. Israel has not implemented Fourth Geneva Convention U.N. Human Rights Declaration or any other standards to govern itself in the Palestinian occupied territories.

Whilst lawyers and have written endlessly constitutes international "it remains for the states concerned to whether they desire their freedom of act such... commitments. lience on the arbitrary international law to so refugee problem, given chronic failure to show faith, is, at the very inadequate. With no "return" the solution problem will be at Israel creation — the refugees a tion in Arab countries.

M. KAHIL



Israel's rejection of Arab sovereignty over the Palestinian occupied territories of 1967, whether Palestinian or Jordanian; the de facto annexation inherent in its policy of denying citizenship to the Palestinian population; its denial of the Palestinians' right of self-determination; and its handling of the intifada. Ultimately, Israel's heinous solution of the "Palestinian problem" is the transfer, compulsory or voluntary, of the Palestinian people. To achieve this goal Israel has, since 1967, systematically attacked the Palestinians' human and economic existence. Therefore the recognition of the mandatory borders does not necessarily guarantee Jordan's security.

The recognition of the mandatory boundaries has, I believe, two inherent flaws: firstly, it could be argued that in 1920 these boundaries included

recognised title." It would thus be made easier for the Israelis to claim title for the "military controlled areas"; that is, disputed areas without a proper title, even though the physical existence of the Palestinian people on its own homeland, since millennia, constitutes, according to international law, its own sovereignty which cannot be denied. If the status of cession, the public property (state land — estimates of which vary from 60-80 per cent of the West Bank) of the ceding state (Jordan) becomes automatically the property of the cessionary state (Israel), and the public law of the ceding state is replaced by that of the cessionary state.

According to international

consider declaring the negotiating team as part of a provisional government, to preempt a political vacuum occurring in the light of such an agreement regarding the status of the occupied territories. This might help eliminate these negative ramifications. Such a move should only be made though after consultations with the international community, the Arab League and international legal experts, to ensure there would be de facto recognition of such an entity, "implying acceptance of the claim of the recognised (Palestinian) government to exercise jurisdiction within its own territory."

In addition, the vague definition of "military control," by which the Israelis might exclude Jerusalem and the Jewish settlements, which together account for more than

Weapons programme could put Iran, U.S. on collision course

By Jim Wolf
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Iran has launched a \$2 billion-a-year rearmament drive that could put it on a collision course with the incoming Clinton administration, experts inside and outside the U.S. government say.

They say Iran is spending that much annually on a steady buildup of forces and defence industries devastated by its 1980-88 war with Iraq, including what is widely believed to be a nuclear weapons programme.

Robert Gates, head of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), said last week that Iran's ruling Islamic fundamentalists might pose a threat to U.S. and allied interests in the Gulf within three to five years.

"Is it a problem today?" Mr.

Gates asked rhetorically in a published interview. "Probably not. But three, four, five years from now it could be a serious problem."

According to a New York Times report, a new CIA study has concluded that Tehran is making progress towards developing a nuclear weapon and may have one by the year 2000.

The CIA declined to confirm or deny the report, but it appears certain to preoccupy President-elect Bill Clinton, who accused President George Bush during the election campaign of missing signs of Iraq's buildup before its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Iranian leaders deny any interest in developing a nuclear weapon. Tehran's U.N. envoy, Kamal Kharrazi, has said in a television interview that Iraq might be instigating such reports

to create "Iran-phobia" in the United States.

But Tehran has purchased advanced aircraft, tanks, missiles and nuclear technology from Russia, China and North Korea, among others, said Yossef Bodansky, who tracks Iran as director of the U.S. House of Representatives' task force on terrorism and unconventional warfare.

A top Iranian Navy commander, Rear Admiral Abbas Mohtaj, has confirmed that Iran had bought three submarines from Russia. The first, a Kilo-class attack craft, joined Iran's fleet in the southern Gulf earlier this month.

U.S. experts say the introduction of submarines spells a new strategic challenge in the Strait of Hormuz, through which about 20 per cent of the world's oil flows each year.

"I'm very suspicious of Iranian intentions," said Kenneth Katzman of the congressional research service, author of the forthcoming book, "The Warriors of Islam."

"They've just got their tentacles in more places now than at any time since the Islamic revolution" led by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in the 1970s and '80s, he said.

That revolution, which toppled the U.S.-backed shah, led to foreign policy disasters for then-President Jimmy Carter, over the Tehran hostage crisis, and Ronald Reagan, whose administration was tarnished by secret arms sales to Iran.

Tehran no longer openly threatens to subvert the monarchies of the Gulf, but many leading mullahs still regard the United States as the "great satan."

LETTERS

Where would the difference go?

To the Editor:

I enquired recently about the local price of a new European car with a two-litre engine. A price of JD 60,000 given.

Coincidentally, reading a business magazine later, there was an article on the manufacturer which said the same car the same engine had recently been launched in America at a price of \$24,000 (equivalent to JD 16,000).

Can anyone explain to this temporary resident of Jordan the astonishing difference in price?

W. Craig,
P.O. Box 9264
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and address as well. Names can be withheld only on request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

مكتبة الأصل

Features

Iraqi artist challenges perception of space and time

By Curt Ryan and Stephanie Genkin

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A visit to the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts provides aesthetic and visual challenges; with the addition of Iraqi artist Shaker Hassan Al Said's latest exhibition, the gallery offers an added intellectual challenge to the Arab art world. Mr. Al Said is renowned not only as a painting artist, but also as an innovative philosopher.

Wrestling with the flat surface on which he paints, Mr. Al Said attempts to break from the confines of the two-dimensional world. His work reflects an ongoing interest in the relationship between time, space and human consciousness. In order to capture the essence of existence, Mr. Al Said employs a combination of techniques which emphasise depth and movement.

Abstract concepts are expressed through synthesising squares and arrows with Arabic letters and numbers which create new curves, lines and shapes to explore the possibilities of space.

Mr. Al Said's collection portrays his conception of spatial movement through the use of mixed media collages on paper, and paintings on wood or even easel. But perhaps the most unique expression of his art is represented through a series of works entitled "Double face" and "Unfaced mirrors," in which the artwork appears on both sides of the paper encased in upright glass. His technique renders not only a sense of continuity, but also allows the visitors to view both sides of the same temporal space.

In all Mr. Al Said's works, nature plays a prominent role in conveying depth, through layers of paper and newspaper collage, as well as thick, heavy strokes of paint. The use of depth is further achieved both by adding, adding, and by subtracting, producing holes and cracks across the surface. Together, these techniques allow the visitor to take a journey through space and time.

Mr. Al Said's exhibition, open until Dec. 21, is surely a challenge to the open-minded, or the less adventurous. However, the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts offers a more eclectic sampling of modern Arab and Islamic art not to be missed.

Kuwaiti government sidesteps confrontations with parliament

KUWAIT (AP) — The government appears to have headed off confrontations with parliament on two of the emirate's most explosive political issues: "The 1990 Iraqi invasion and alleged mishandling of Kuwait's multi-billion dollar overseas investments."

Parliament voted to appoint a committee to investigate the government's handling of the invasion and referred the investments scandal to the state's accounting office.

But the committee's powers will be limited primarily to referring any case of negligence over the invasion it finds to the judiciary for further action rather than impeaching ministers or military commanders.

That appeared to be a compromise between the government and parliament over the controversial issue which has dominated politics since Kuwait was liberated by U.S.-led coalition forces in February 1991 after a seven-month Iraqi occupation.

The opposition had demanded a committee that would be able to hold government officials accountable for any mistakes made before, during and after the Aug. 2, 1990 invasion.

But the government has

favoured a fact-finding committee, with no powers, drawn from the opposition-dominated parliament and outside.

"This is a satisfactory formula for all parties concerned...we, as deputies of the people, are just looking for the truth and it's not in our interest to clash with anybody," pro-government legislator Talal Al Saeed said after Tuesday's vote.

Dhawi Al Othman, minister of state for cabinet affairs and a deputy prime minister, said the committee's investigation should be aimed at learning from the invasion experience to avoid such calamities in the future.

"The Iraqi regime is responsible for the criminal act of the morning of Aug. 2," he declared.

Investigating the government's failure to anticipate the Iraqi invasion and why the military response was so ineffective, even though Kuwait's forces were heavily outnumbered by the Iraqi army, and the investments scandal were the hottest issues in the Oct. 5 elections for the 50-member parliament.

In Tuesday's vote, 35 of the 30 lawmakers present approved setting up the nine-member investigative committee.

The other three abstained.

They included Ahmad Al Khateeb, a prominent critic of the government and leader of the Democratic Forum opposition group.

Despite its election triumph, the opposition has been far less muscular than expected and heightened the belief that the ruling Al Sabah family has been able so far to harness the opposition within the Kuwait's traditional political structure dominated by the Al Sabahs.

The opposition's main drawback is its fragmentation. There is no cohesive power bloc and the establishment appears to have been able to exploit the differences between the opposition groups.

The opposition and their allies won 35 seats in the October poll, the first since the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, dissolved parliament in 1986 for criticising the government.

The scandal over the state-run Kuwait Investment Office's (KIO) funds in Spain is another issue on which government have been expected to clash with parliament.

The KIO's admission it has lost \$5 billion on industrial investments in Spain in recent years, while making hefty profits for

institutional and Kuwaiti investors that were transferred to hitherto unrevealed external accounts, has caused an uproar.

Parliament Tuesday decided that the accounting office, the highest accounting authority in Kuwait, should investigate and

that the assembly's financial committee should look into foreign investments in general.

Mr. Khateeb declared:

"There's a feeling of uneasiness and concern about investigations carried out by the government."

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Gunmen

(Continued from page 1)

its 86 delegates in Somalia and might evacuate some if the situation worsens.

But an ICRC spokesman said that all-Swiss humanitarian agency would continue to try to feed 1.2 million people despite continued fighting and anarchy in the country.

"The situation in Somalia is changing every day..." an ICRC statement said.

"An improvement in security conditions is essential: The very survival of the Somali population at stake."

A spokesman told Reuters: "The ICRC has put in place a reinforced security arrangement guarantee the security of our

delegates."

"We have tried to reinforce the area of telecommunications which seems essential," he said. Radio contacts had been improved between the ICRC delegates, scattered in 12 places in Somalia, and the Geneva headquarters.

He added: "If the situation should deteriorate, some of the delegates, such as the veterinarians for example, who are not urgently needed, might be evacuated to Nairobi." See related stories on page 2.

Somalis meeting in the Ethiopian capital Saturday called on the U.S.-led troops preparing to enter Somalia to disarm and demobilise armed gunmen looting relief assistance as a priority.

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Legal pressure mounts on sports federations

LONDON (R) — In days of old when sport was supposedly honorable and a dignified handshake. Rich well-bred athletes would no more have dreamed of going to law than flying to the moon.

Today, lawsuits are commonplace and the lawyers have joined the athletes aboard the sporting gravy train as international governing bodies battle to retain control of their sports.

World sport appeared to be facing a crisis Friday with rulings in three major doping cases in 24 hours.

In the U.S., a court awarded an unprecedented \$27.3 million in damages to American track star Butch Reynolds who sued the International Amateur Athletic Federation over a disputed positive doping test.

In Britain, the International Swimming Federation slapped an 18-month doping ban on German former world champion Astrid Strauss, who had previously done a deal with her national federation to limit the ban to six months.

In the British High Court, the Aga Khan, one of the world's leading owners, failed in his attempt to challenge the authority of the British jockey club over the disqualification of one of his horses whose urine contained a banned substance.

But the main focus of attention was the spectacular award to Reynolds which prompted breakfast-time crisis meetings among the lawyers at the IAAF's London headquarters.

Because it is based in Britain, the IAAF insists it is beyond the jurisdiction of the U.S. courts. It has said it will not pay Reynolds a cent.

The Reynolds case, which has dragged on for two years, lent weight to recent calls for the IOC to become a universal authority with power to sit in judgement on doping disputes.

FINA's decision to increase her ban was a further embarrassment for German sport which is still ensnared in the case of Katrin Krabbe, the double world sprint champion who is seeking to overturn a four-year doping ban.

Krabbe and fellow former East German Grit Breuer and Silke Moeller used a technicality in June to escape an earlier ban for rigging urine samples.

But Krabbe, Breuer and Manuela Derr were suspended again in September when they admitted taking the drug clenbuterol.

The case was further complicated when the suspension of two British weightlifters, sent home from the Barcelona Olympics after testing positive for clenbuterol, was subsequently lifted by the British Amateur Weightlifting Association.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

No reprieve for Liverpool

BERNE (R) — Liverpool's hopes of replacing Spartak Moscow in the European Cup Winners' Cup were dashed Friday when FIFA ruled that midfielder Mikhail Rusayev's disputed registration with the Russian club was acceptable. The qualification of Spartak Moscow for the quarter-finals of the European Cup Winners' Cup is hereby confirmed, the European soccer body UEFA said in a statement.

Both Liverpool and Avenir Beggen of Luxembourg, beaten in the first round by a Spartak side including Rusayev, had hopes of playing off for a March quarter-final place against Feyenoord Rotterdam if Spartak had been disqualified.

Paris crush Bordeaux to go top

PARIS (R) — Paris St. Germain crushed once-great Bordeaux 5-0 to go top of the French League Friday. Nantes were held 1-1 at lowly Valenciennes to stay level on points with the pacesetters but second on goal difference. Paris, who have spent millions in order to end Marseille's supremacy, travel to Nantes next week for a much-awaited clash between the two most impressive sides in France this season.

Bin Sulayem re-emerges as top Arab driver

DUBAI (AP) — Mohammed Bin Sulayem underlined his position as the Arab world's top driver again with an emphatic victory in the Dubai International Rally that concluded Friday. The defending UAE star took his Toyota Celica to an overwhelming 17-minute success in the final event of the 1992 FISA Middle East series from Saudi Arabia's newly crowned regional champion Mamoud Khayat.

Bucks' Abdelnaby faces drug charge

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee Bucks forward Alaa Abdelnaby says he can't talk about an arrest that could lead to charges of possessing marijuana. "Just because we're reviewing charges doesn't mean there is going to be a charge, it doesn't mean there's not," Milwaukee county assistant district attorney Stephanie Rothstein said. "The investigation is going on." A published report in Boston this week said the Bucks were considering trading Abdelnaby, a Cairo, Egypt native who moved to the United States with his parents when he was 2 years old, to the Celtics for the rights to unsigned first round pick John Barry. The 6-foot-10 (208-centimetre) Abdelnaby, in his third NBA season from Duke, has averaged 5.6 points and 3.3 rebounds in 11 games as a backup for the Bucks.

GORON BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSH
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠AKQ7 ♠K106 983 ♠Q105

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—No matter how weak a vulnerable overall, you must offer reasonable play for game. Jump to four hearts. Don't put pressure on partner by just bidding three hearts—that's an invitation in standard methods and partner would pass on many hands where game is laydown.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K73 ♠Q6 ♠Q852 ♠QJ4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—You prefer partner's first suit, but a simple preference of two diamonds would seem inadequate. Nevertheless, that would be our choice on this collection of overrated queens and jacks—unless you have an agreement that a jump to three diamonds would be invitational, not forcing.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K73 ♠Q6 ♠Q852 ♠QJ4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—Don't do anything rash. Your values are mostly soft and partner might have only three-card support. For the moment, bid three diamonds. If partner returns to spades, showing four-card support, you should pass North had the option of jumping to four spades with sound values and four-card support and rejected it.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K73 ♠Q6 ♠Q852 ♠QJ4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—You could raise to three diamonds, but this does not look like the sort of holding that will stretch to 11 tricks. If there is a game in the hand, it will likely be in three no trump. Invite partner to the dance by rebidding two no trump.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K73 ♠Q6 ♠Q852 ♠QJ4

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 Pass 1 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—You are in the slam zone, but you don't even know yet where you want to play. For the moment, take a false preference to three hearts and wait for partner to complete the picture of his hand on the next round.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠KJ8 ♠5 ♠QJ73 ♠QJ85

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

A.—When we saw this hand played, South responded two diamonds and the auction got out of hand. With a soft nine points in high cards and a singleton in partner's suit, this hand doesn't merit a two-over-one response. Bid one no trump.

U.S. and Switzerland tied 1-1 in Davis Cup

FORT WORTH (R) — Andre Agassi sizzled but Jim Courier fizzled, leaving the heavily favoured United States and Switzerland deadlocked 1-1 in the Davis Cup tennis finals after Friday's singles.

Agassi opened the best-of-five match tie by overwhelming Jakob Hlasek 6-1 6-2 6-2 in just 88 minutes to extend his 1992 Davis Cup record to 7-0 and career mark to 19-4.

But world number one Courier was left shellshocked by the monster serve of Olympic champion Marc Rosset in a five-set epic battle that kept fans on the edge of their seats for four hours and 23 minutes.

The 35th-ranked Rosset, who also beat Courier this summer at the Olympics, unleashed 27 aces and 15 service winners and demonstrated tremendous poise under the pressure of his first Davis Cup final to win 6-3 6-7 (9-11) 3-6 6-4 6-4.

"It was a match I will remember all my life," said the soft-spoken, gangling Rosset.

Courier appeared to have seized momentum in the third set after taking an amazingly tense 11-9 second set tie-break in which both players squandered two set points each.

The Australian and French Open champion won three successive games from 3-3, breaking Rosset's serve twice to take a two sets to one lead.

But the traditional 10-minute break after the third set apparently gave the Swiss a chance to regroup.

The 6-foot-5 (1.96m) Rosset took the fourth set on the strength of a single service break in the fifth game and jumped out to a commanding 4-1 fifth-set lead by breaking serve twice.

Courier then dug down and appeared to be on the verge of a pulling off a great comeback. He broke Rosset for 4-2 and held double break point in the eighth game with a chance to level the set at 4-4.

But Rosset would not be denied. He saved both break (points and served out the match before falling over flat onto his back to disbelief.

"I fought until the last point and that's why I win," he said.

Rosset's teammate and doubles partner never had a chance against Agassi, who dominated from the first point and never let Hlasek into the match.

Hlasek did not have a break point against Agassi until the final game of the match and only reached deuce against the American's serve twice.

Agassi was equally impressive returning Hlasek's serve and with his thundering groundstrokes.

No matter what Hlasek tried, Agassi always seemed to have the answer.

"I think I had him a little frustrated," Agassi said. "If he came in, I won the point. He stayed back, I controlled the point. There really wasn't too much I wasn't doing extremely well today."

Agassi was so pumped up after his match he said: "I wish I could go out there and play Rosset right now."

Bird has no regrets about retirement

WALTHAM (AP) — The first 100 days of Larry Bird's retirement passed peacefully with plenty of time to relax and no regrets about ending one of the greatest careers in basketball history.

His still aching back reminds him that he made the right choice to walk away after 13 seasons. His keen eye watches the younger stars. And his sharp tongue shoots one liners as precisely as he fired 3-pointers.

Bird met with reporters after the Boston Celtics practice Friday.

"It's just a little boring," he said of life away from the court. He misses the competition but not the travel. He has more time now for such business as the commercial he filmed one of the few times he has handled a basketball since his retirement Aug. 18.

He recently returned to Boston following trips to Indiana and Florida and attended his first post retirement Celtics game against Chicago.

"They were awful good seats," he said. "You could see just about everything that happens on the floor."

That's a familiar feeling for Bird, who was among the best at seeing players develop. He's finding his new vantage point easy to adjust to.

"I've missed it. It's something I've been doing for a lot of years," he said. "If I felt good and retired on the spur of the moment I'd probably feel bad now. But now that I feel the effects on my back I don't want to be out there at all. It makes it easier on me mentally."

Bird reached the 100-day mark of his retirement last month on the Thanksgiving holiday Nov. 26, one day after the Celtics ended a six-game losing streak. They were off to their worst start since 1978-79, the season before Bird joined them.

But Boston won four of its next



Larry Bird (7 left), who was part of the U.S. Olympic 'dream team' (above) says other Jordans and Johnsons are heading for the NBA but "not another Bird."

five and took a 6-9 record into Friday night's game against Miami.

Now he sees others — Shaquille O'Neal and Bird's Olympic teammates Scottie Pippen and Christian Laettner — moving into the spotlight.

"From playing with (Pippen) this summer I couldn't believe how good a ballplayer he is," Bird said. "I think Scottie Pippen is in the top three or four best

players in the league."

And he sees some of himself in O'Neal — a star who joined a struggling team and turned it around in his first pro season.

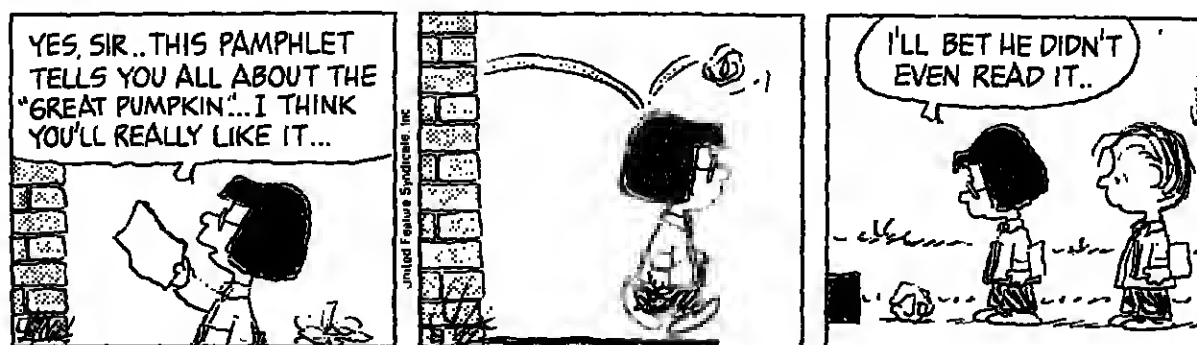
"I thought he would average about 25 points and 13 or 14 rebounds and that's about what he's averaging," Bird said. "O'Neal in Orlando is the latest example of how one player can have a huge impact on a franchise. That also was evident when

Chicago struggled without an injured Michael Jordan, losing 101-96 to Atlanta last week."

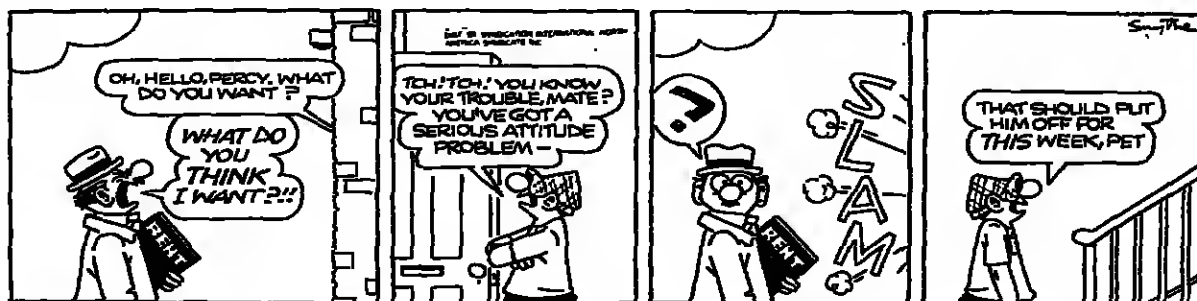
Bird played against college players in Olympic tournaments this summer and believes some great players are headed for the NBA.

"There's going to be another Shaquille. There's going to be coming along," he said. "No," he said with a straight face, "not another Larry Bird."

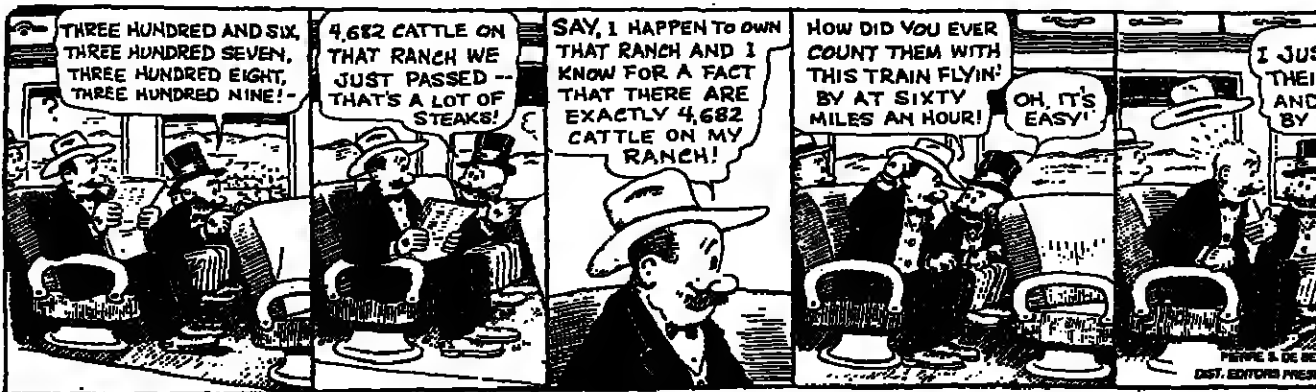
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n' Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 1992

By Thomas S. Plerson, Astrologer, Carroll Richter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when nothing carefully planned seems to work out as you wish. Be wise and avoid depression or annoyance at obstacles and delays. Don't jeopardize your image with the general public.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A fine day to make the changes that are difficult during the busy weekdays and to look for the right ideas under which you can later go forward.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Your instincts are sound today what you can best do to please your attachment and at the same time make a rapid improvement in practical matters.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Conditions come to light that give you the opportunity to forge ahead in the world of activity in a prosperous manner, tonight fulfill a promise to a partner.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A good day to make up your mind the scope and direction that your work of service or helplessness you are taking can last for sometime.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Make whatever arrangements you now can to engage in different outlets that appeal to your lighter and happiest side of your nature.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is the day for you to

preoccupy yourself with in your home or where you family are concerned, to a new plan for the future.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Think about how you be more articulate and views across and then use means are at hand to do very clear manner.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Use some of the least consult your own others reliable sources, you can best do to have a prosperity and abundance.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have an usual protection in what wish to do of a personal make decisions and put motion at once, then take tonight.

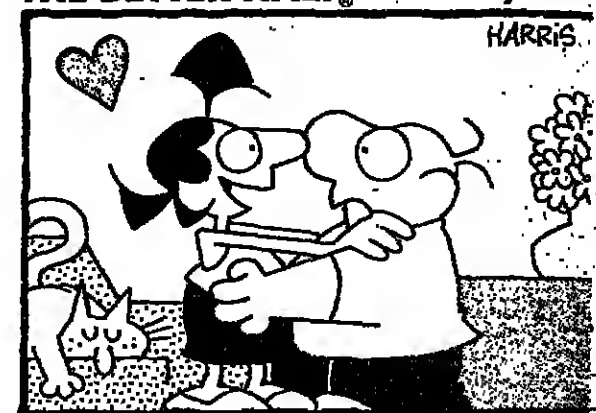
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Closest yourself confident of good judgment, find out the suggestions son will give to enhance whole life style.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Your vision is exact if you think about it deeply, be able to uncover just what can do to bring cherished into your orbit.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A day to go into the pit as much as possible and will ever influential and prominent sons are available to be w

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Kiss me, big boy...and don't stop until my heartbeat shows up on the Richter scale!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BAYSS

LOBAT

TRIMOP

LOCASE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumbles: NAVE ONION FLATLY MUSLIN

Answer: What that soap opera about the petroleum heirs was called—OIL IN THE FAMILY

(Answers Monday)

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Economy

Kuwaitis want punishments over Spanish investments

Groupo Torras is the Spanish unit of the London-based Kuwait Investment Office, the branch of the government which manages a worldwide investment portfolio meant to sustain Kuwaitis when the country's oil runs out. Abdul Jalil Al Gharabali, formerly a consultant to the Central Bank of Kuwait, described it as a tragedy.

"The issue is not an economic one, it's a moral one. It began further losses."

When those who tampered with public money sold their consciences," he told Reuters.

"The time has come to punish those who abused public money and to freeze their money until the judicial authorities have investigated this tragedy," he added.

Jassem Al Saadoun, an independent consultant and economic adviser to parliament, said Grupo Torras's problems were the "result of choosing the wrong companies with the wrong management and of a premeditated intention on the part of decision-makers that this money would not be sacrosanct."

The Spanish government, which tried to dissuade KIO from such a move, put a brave face on the outcome and said it trusted the Kuwaitis would continue investing in Spain.

Algeria sets investment, tax strategy for future

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria, battling crippling debt and poverty, is laying the groundwork for an economic take-off from 1995 with plans to tax the rich, attract foreign investors and encourage small and medium businesses.

In a broad outline of medium-term strategy, the government said that it aimed to "bring the country out of the profound and many-sided crisis into which it plunged over several years."

The government gave no details on the amount of new taxes but Prime Minister Belaid Abdul Salam has already warned that Algerians face three to five years of austerity before the economy will be turned around.

Financial Markets

Jordan Times
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank
U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE	NEW YORK CLOSE
	3/12/92	4/12/92
Sterling Pound	1.5640	1.5605
Deutsche Mark	1.5530	1.5930
Swiss Franc	1.4135	1.4285
French Franc	5.3875	5.4070
Japanese Yen	124.67	124.95
European Currency Unit	1.2379**	1.2335

European Interest Rates

Date: 5/12/92

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.81	3.62	3.62	4.00
Sterling Pound	7.06	7.00	6.75	6.612
Deutsche Mark	9.03	8.75	8.37	7.51
Swiss Franc	6.15	6.06	5.87	5.68
French Franc	10.25	10.25	9.88	9.06
Japanese Yen	3.87	3.65	3.62	3.62
European Currency Unit	11.57	10.51	10.15	9.12

Precious Metals

Date: 12/92

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	355.45	6.50	Silver	5.77	0.08

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 5/12/92

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.688	0.690
Sterling Pound	1.0715	1.0772
Deutsche Mark	0.4314	0.4336
Swiss Franc	0.4811	0.4835
French Franc	0.1271	0.1277
Japanese Yen	0.5503	0.5531
Dutch Guilder	0.3839	0.3858
Swedish Krona	0.1006	0.1011
Italian Lira	0.0493	0.0495
Belgian Franc	0.2097	0.2107

Other Currencies

Date: 5/12/92

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7990	1.8150
Lebanese Lira	0.0350	0.0385
Saudi Riyal	0.1830	0.1840
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2850	2.3000
Qatari Riyal	0.1864	0.1874
Omani Riyal	0.2000	0.2100
UAE Dirham	0.1864	0.1874
Greek Drachma	0.3300	0.3375
Cypriot Pound	1.4580	1.4780

AB Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	25/11/92	Close	2/12/92	Close
All-Share	165.57		166.35	
Banking Sector	119.32		120.24	
Insurance Sector	181.32		182.96	
Industry Sector	227.19		228.88	
Services Sector	231.21		237.45	

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - 51011411
TELEPHONE: 640110 / 640110
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SATURDAY 05/12/92

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING PRICE	OFFERING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN BANK	224.55	2.450	2.470
THE JORDAN BANK	5.141	3.000	3.070
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	141.53	3.100	3.160
UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	43.122	3.070	3.070
ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	21.127	3.000	3.070
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	17.208	4.120	4.120
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	2.025	4.450	4.500
ARAB BANK FOR INVESTMENT/OLD	594.243	1.870	1.880
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	129.555	1.810	1.870
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	74.956	4.320	4.250
BEIT ELBAH SAVINGS/INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING BANK OF JORDAN	99.403	3.240	3.440
ARAB BANK	3.753	18.800	18.800
GENERAL ARABIA INSURANCE	384.000	3.200	3.200
JORDAN PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE	50.517	3.270	3.270
ARABIAN GRAS INSURANCE	5.820	2.750	2.750
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE	364	2.750	2.750
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	40.068	2.810	2.810
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	29.114	1.600	1.640
ARAB INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	126.263	6.700	6.150
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	56.169	1.200	1.190
UNITED HOTELS EAST & CONDORES HOTELS	126.046	2.630	2.620
JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION	4.760	0.460	0.460
ROCKWELL GROUP, REPAIRING & MAINTENANCE	12.235	1.230	1.230
PETRA ENTERPRISES EQUIPMENT LEASING	6.580	1.180	1.180
JORDAN RAIL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	13.432	0.900	0.900
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	2.240	1.700	1.620
JORDAN KRAVIT CO. FOR AGRI. & FOOD PROD.	161.581	2.620	1.660
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	2.025	1.520	1.500
JORDAN DAIRY	15.407	2.620	2.610
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	232.134	10.650	10.600
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	126.069	7.140	7.100
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	55.827	0.820	0.820
ARAB CHEMICAL ENTERPRISES INDUSTRIES	3.253	23.300	23.000
NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY	1.100	5.500	5.500
DAR AL BINA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	11.101	0.700	0.700
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	22.493	4.000	3.900
THE JORDAN MOBILE RILLS	16.864	11.200	11.100
JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	55.248	0.710	0.710
JORDAN PAPER & CARD BOARD FACTORIES	1.958	4.500	4.250
JORDAN INDUSTRIES	13.324	3.300	4.350
THE JORDAN PAPER MANUFACTURING	16.570	2.310	2.250
JORDAN TANNING	5.162	0.750	0.500
ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS	294.274	1.020	1.170
NATIONAL INDUSTRIES	5.293	5.920	5.870
JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	17.407	13.500	13.400
ALADOL INDUSTRIES	16.253	4.400	4.300
MOLEN INDUSTRIES	1.260	2.800	2.510
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/2100	14.864	1.250	1.270
SPINNING & WEAVING	28.210	3.180	3.140
NATIONAL CARBON & WIRE MANUFACTURING	57.462	6.850	6.810
JORDAN SUIPO-CHIMICALS	90.723	4.750	4.790
THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	518.555	1.610	1.610
JORDAN POTASSIUM INDUSTRIES	17.581	1.370	2.350
JORDAN PRECAST CONCRETE INDUSTRY	102.300	0.940	0.950
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	274.217	5.710	5.710
ARAB INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	117.575	2.070	2.050
JORDAN TONCOO & CEMENTS	2.850	28.500	28.500
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	18.432	8.600	8.600

Entry fee stirs dispute at environment fund talks

ABIDJAN (R) — Developing nations campaigned Friday to end what they see as an excessive price for membership of the world's top agency for funding projects aimed at protecting the global environment.

Delegates at the Global Environment Facility (GEF) meeting in Abidjan said a \$4 million requirement for entry was keeping out several countries from the fund.

"It is ridiculous. The World Bank had to lend money to some poor countries to join," one delegate told Reuters.

The membership issue has once more turned a major international environment meeting into a clash between poor countries of the South and industrialised states of the North.

North-South divisions came to a head at the Earth Summit in Rio last June which designated the GEF as the world's main agency for funding ecological protection projects.

More than 40 governments are attending the three-day Abidjan meeting of the GEF, which has been under the ambit of the World Bank since its creation two years ago.

"It's obvious that the industrialised countries don't want membership to be universal because they can have better control in a restricted forum," one African delegate said.

Decisions at the GEF are now based on consensus, a method Third World delegates say is undemocratic.

Church slams Ramos for failing to house poor Filipinos

MANILA (R) — The Roman Catholic archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Jaime Sin, slammed President Fidel Ramos' government Saturday for demolishing squatter shanties and failing to house thousands of poor Filipinos.

Archbishop Sin said during a mass in Manila that the government had appropriated only one-fourth of one per cent of the 329.3 billion pesos (\$12.9 billion) in the national budget for housing.

"They have been carried out by untrained goons... backed up often by unidentified members of the Philippine National Police," he said.

These demolitions weigh heavily on our Christian conscience. They impugn our very humanity," he declared.

Archbishop Sin said it was not enough that President Ramos, the first Protestant president of the predominantly Roman Catholic Philippines, planned to put up housing in an area where the smoken mountain garbage dump north of Manila used to be located.

The cardinal called for the creation of a housing department to deal with the problem and urged the government to crack down on land speculation that was driving up the price of prime real estate in the capital.

"Can we not find more political will to face our housing problem as an ugly type of class warfare, where shelter rights of the have-nots are pitted perennially against the property rights of the haves?" Archbishop Sin asked.

"While we have built spectacular temples to worship capitalist consumerism, flyovers to raise traffic problems to the heavens, and palaces to house the hollow rites of modern hedonism, we have generally been unable to achieve better conditions of housing for our poor," he added.

There is a severe shortage of housing in the sprawling city of eight million. Tens of thousands of people squat on land where they do not have access to potable water or power supplies.

Attempts to expel them often result in clashes between police and people defending their homes.

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Attempts to expel them often result in clashes between police and people defending their homes.

JORDAN TIMES TEL: 667171

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Tel. 671881

LOST PASSPORT
I, Sanab Ollah Itumiah from Bangladesh announce that I lost my passport issued in Flet in Bangladesh number (F-590508) dated 27.10.1987.
If found, please hand to the nearest police station or contact tel.: 755531, Amman

FLAT FOR RENT
Located in Al Rabla on the second floor of a two storey villa. Its 270 sq. metres consists of three bedrooms, one maid's room, three bathrooms, 2 salons, one sitting room, one dining room, a kitchen with American cupboards, and Italian marble floors. Suitable for diplomatic missions.
For more details, contact 666591

FOR SALE
Ladies black Russian bear jacket (genuine leather) stamped. "Medium size" brand new.
For special ladies whom interested, please call us at tel. #681472, Bsisso and El Qadi Co.
The price sought is JD 700

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Cinema

CONCORD Tel: 677420
Danny Devito

OTHER PEOPLES MONEY
Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema

PHILADELPHIA Tel: 634144
Erika Anderson — in ZANDLEE

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
Thursdays & Fridays children shows at 11:00 a.m.

PROBLEM CHILD

Cinema

Nabil Al Mashini Theatre Tel: 675571

Friday, Dec. 11, 1992
Is the start of an annual holiday for the political comedy

"Pandemonium" (Abu Awwad)
The 1993 season starts in January.

Cinema

AHLAN THEATRE Tel: 625155

Nabil & Hisham's
AHLAN THEATRE

Always something new in the Review:
"Welcome New World Order"
Daily, except for Mondays at 8:30 p.m.
Tel.: 625155

